

POSTER INSIDE
Kiss Him, Not Me! and
Keijo!!!!!!

Parker

A S I A

otakuasia.com
Dec 2016 - January 2017
Php 100



EXTREME MOMENTS
Amazing Places, Inspiring Journeys

CN: Kimberly Sabino
FF Character: Lightning
Photography by: Kei Aveunalliv
of ViSUAL ArTELiER Keiaveunalliv

**Cover Feature Anime:
KISS HIM, NOT ME!**
Watashi ga Motete Dōsunda

GARAGE KIT TUTORIAL PART II
XANDER-STYLE ANIME EYES
ART OF OTAKU

CONTACT LENSES & COSPLAY WIGS
REVIEW + RECOMMENDATIONS
OTAKU LIFE HACKS

USING NO の AND KA カ
MANABIMASU

SHIRATORIZAWA'S
WAKATOSHI NAKAJIMA
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ST ISSUE | ARTIST ISSUE

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私がモテてどうすんだ

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There are many things to be thankful for this year but for this issue, we remember the creative in us all. Here we write about new things, experiences and memories. From the Japanese cheese cakes to the Extreme Moments.

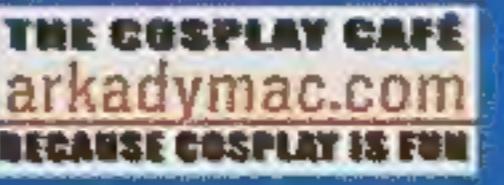
You will not know things unless you try them so we did and we will share them with you! From The Unmei Expo event, we picked up a bit of screentoning that you must be curious of. From our adventures in cosplay, Yani will review contact lens and wig brands that are available in the country. The gaming community celebrated last October and our contributor, Mikelle has reports, games and samples for you.

Our cover feature is about a girl who is also experiencing a lot of firsts in life. She has been very chubby all her life that now that she has gained a new body, will it also bring in new love? Our manga and review section is also brimming with new content every page! Entertainment is our game so we have the list of 2017 movies that we highly recommend.

This is also the issue where we will pour out all the remaining Inbox submissions from the year 2016 so look alive, your drawing or message might just be inside!

Let us welcome 2017 with new knowledge and curiosity!
-kanddy

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INBOX



Stef Remigio Cardinoza

Hello , Otaku Asia Staff and minna-san!

I'm **Angela Faye Fajardo**.... I am super fan of your Magazine and I really love your "Assasination Classroom" Edition.

Keep up the Good work and God Bless. Arigatou gozaimasu.I hope my message will be featured.



Jennrose Libramonte

KONNICHWA OTAKU ASIA!!!!!!

This is my first time sending you a message.. I hope you'll post it in one of your magazines..... It's really good and I really like it... I LOVE IT!!!!

Pwede pong mag request? Sana ilagay niyo po ang Akatsuki no Yona sa next magazine niyo..... at ang InuXBoku SS.. Crush na crush ko po kasi si Miketsukami Soushi..... talagang bibilhin ko po yung magazine na yun.... medyo marami na po akong nabili na magazines niyo at may balak po akong mag continue hhahahahaahhaa....

Sana mabasa niyo po ito... That's all..... Bye bye everyone.... SAYONARA.....

-Gwyneth Rose Aba-a

Hello! I really love your mag. Every month hinahanap ko siya sa pinakamalapit na bookstore but sad to say, sa pinaka malayo meron. Hahaha. But worth it ang pagod kapag nakuha na ang latest issue. Fulfilling.

I hope mafeature niyo ang ilan sa magagaling na actors of some jdramas or live action. I just really admire them because they had the chance to portray the character I want to be. Lol haha.

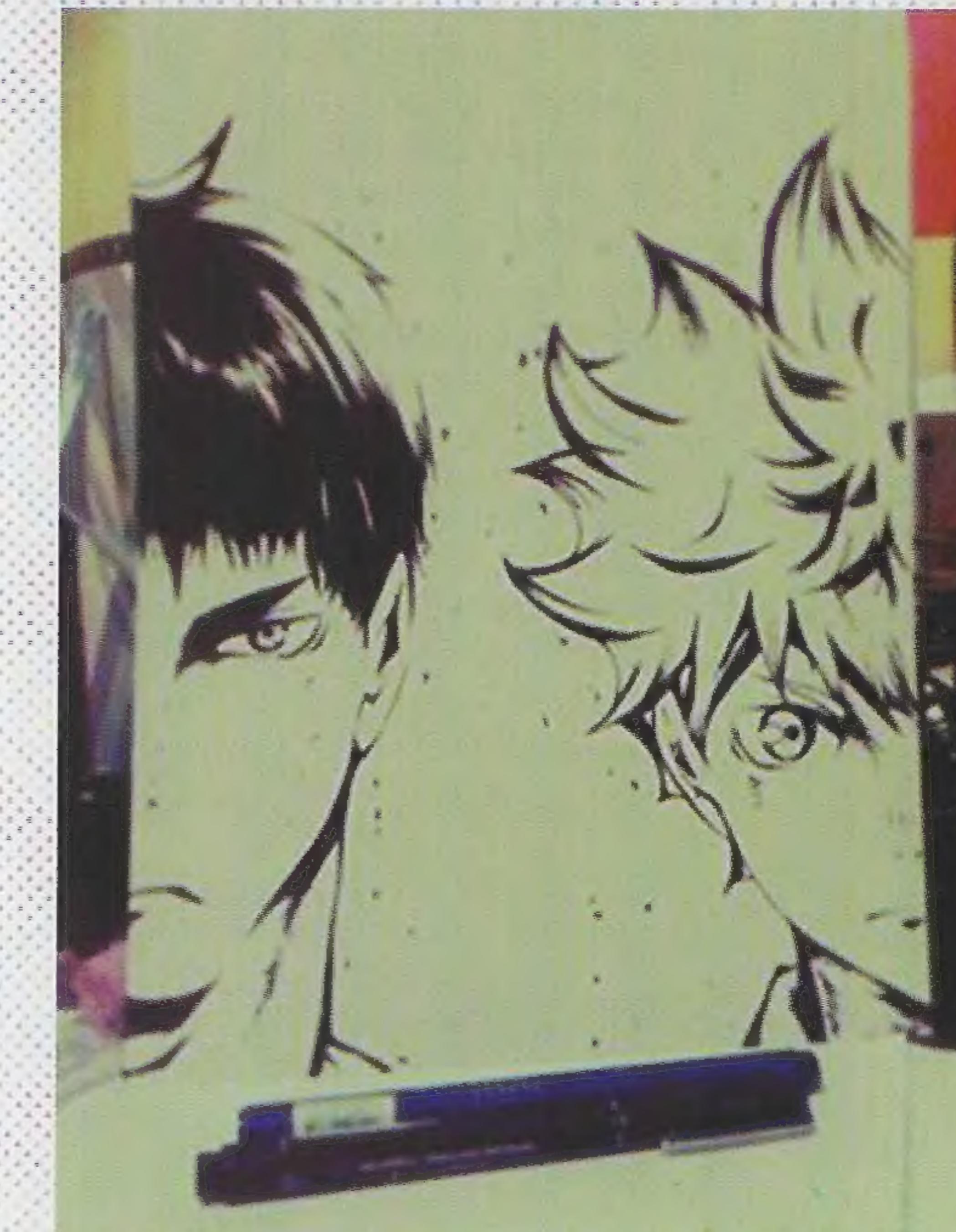
Sorry I have no drawing or Fan art to show. I'm not really good at that, sad to say hahaha.

MORE POWER OTAKU ASIA!
CONGRATULATIONS
AND GOD BLESS

-Rochelle Ordineza



Mark Andrei Humilde



Hello Otaku Asia!

I just want to share my work~ The 3rd season of Haikyuu! I already brought 3 of your mags. They are awesome! keep up the good work.

Can I also request Mamoru Miyano in the seiyuu's mic? I love every content of your magazines. Salamat sa hard work.

Pa shout po pala sa mga taga Binangongan Rizal! mga schoolmates ko sa BCC! Hi!

-Jenny Matsuo



Keydian Greco A. Lipana

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?
Fanart to showoff?
Otaku Asia would love to hear from you!



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First time ko pong imessage kayo. Recently, I've been collecting your magazines.

Kung pwede nyo po ba i-feature ang Twin Exorcists.

Mahilig po kasi ako sa action/horror genre or kaya naman ay singing otakus.

Salamat din po dahil meron ng posters ang magazine nyo dahil nag-iipon ako ng posters ng anime. And I like it when you add informations po about different character lalo na yung mag niyo released on Aug-Sep na featured ang Love Live.

Sana po ay mapagbigyan niyo ang request ko. Thanks.

-Kylla Sanorjo



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Miyazaki Steps Out Of Retirement For One Last Film

by James

Hayao Miyazaki, the anime industry living legend who wrote *Lupin III* and cofounded Studio Ghibli, has decided to step out of retirement for one last film.

Miyazaki, who stopped directing anime films in 2013, has been working on *Kemushi no Boro* (Boro the Caterpillar), a CG short for the Ghibli Museum. But Miyazaki wants the project to be more than just a short film, thus his coming out of retirement and presenting of a project proposal for an anime film last August.

The idea has yet to be green-lighted, but Miyazaki has already began animation work, and plans to make storyboards for over 100 cuts of footage. If officially approved, the film is projected to be finished by 2019; a rather perfect timing, as it will be done and hopefully shown before the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Hopefully the movie pushes through, and hopefully it'd be of the same quality as most of Miyazaki's works.



Ikemen Sengoku Toki o Kakeru Koi To Have Anime, Manga, and PS Vita Game Adaptation

by James

Fans of otome games and otome games-based anime fans, rejoice! *Ikemen Sengoku: Toki o Kakeru Koi* will be getting not only an anime adaptation, but also a manga adaptation, and a follow-up game for the PS Vita.

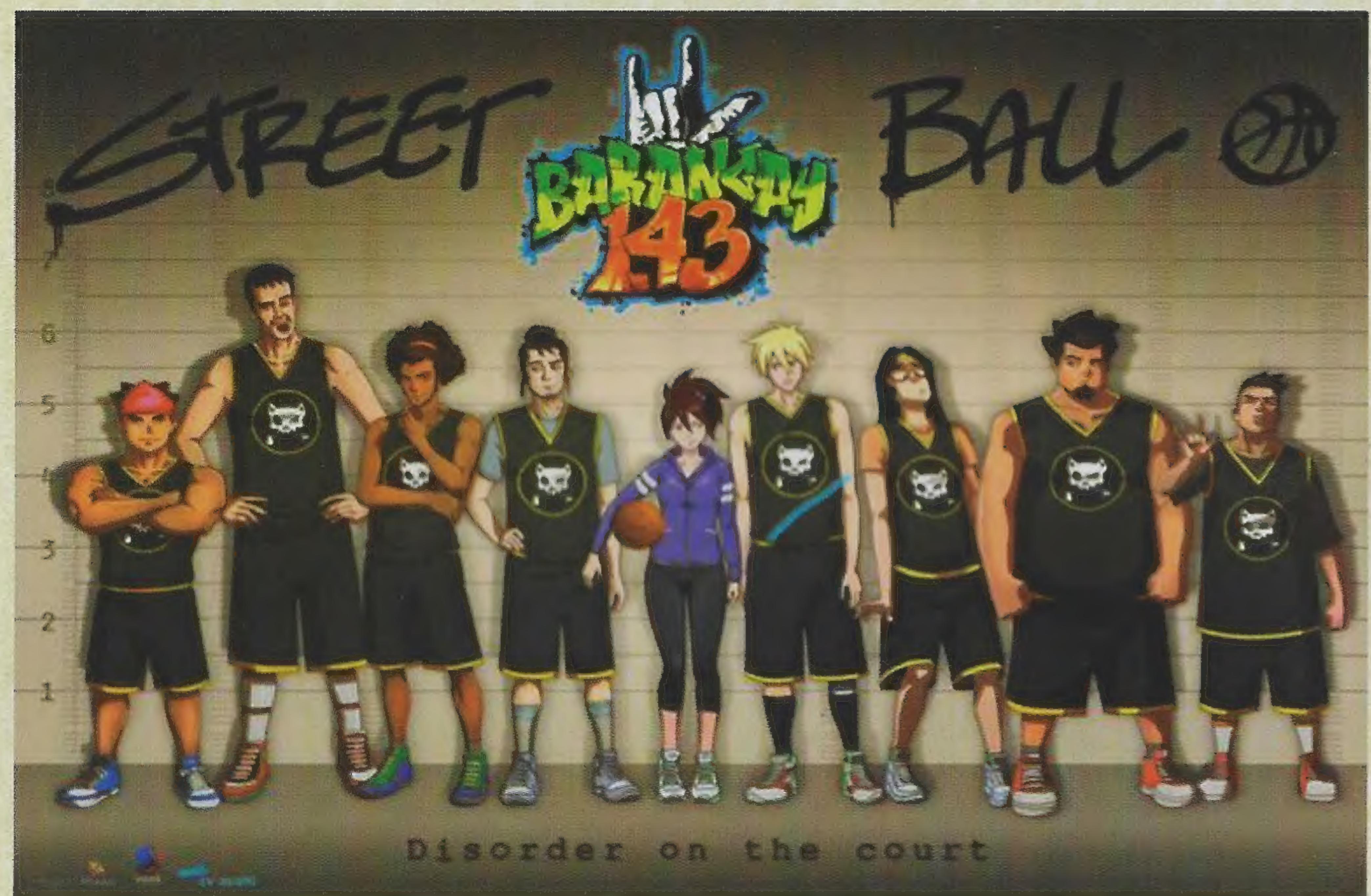
Roughly translated in English as *Hot Guy Sengoku: Love That Jumps Through Time*, the iOS and Android otome game lets players fill the shoes of a protagonist who was sent back in time, specifically to the era of Feudal Japan. There they meet bishounen version of historical figures, namely Oda Nobunaga (voiced by Tomokazu Sugita), Date Masamune (Kazuki Katou), and Sanada Yukimura (Yoshimasa Hosoya).

CYBIRD, the company that developed the mobile game, announced at the

Animate Girls Festival 2016 that the upcoming anime adaptation will be released in 2017, and will include all the 11 main characters. The company, however, didn't announce what the format of the anime will be.

It has also been announced that the manga adaptation will be in Akita Shoten's *Monthly Princess* magazine on January, with Mika Kajiyama (Neo Angelique, Ayahatori Shōkanjō, *Ore to Atashi no Kareshi-sama*) as the artist.

Lastly, the PS Vita release by Idea Factory's Otomate Brand, which is entitled as *Ikemen Sengoku: Toki o Kakeru Koi ~Arata Naru Deai~* (New Meeting), was originally meant to have a fall 2016 release, but was moved to 2017.



Sports Anime About Pinoy Street Basketball for 2017

by James

Is there such thing as a "Pinoy" anime? Well, in a few months, there will be. So, what's its theme going to be? Basketball, the country's favorite sport. And it's not just about shooting hoops, but also about taking it to the streets – yes, this is your "liga" anime. The title of this project? Barangay 143. Couldn't get more "Pinoy" than that.

According to Japanese financial newspaper Nikkei, television network TV Asahi, with the help of local animation and game company Synergy88, will be producing said anime, which is obviously and specifically targeted to Filipino audiences, as it's about Filipino street basketball players in Barangay 143. TV Asahi will be the one in charge of character design and direction, while Synergy88 will be taking care of the production and scripts.

Barangay 143 will be aired in the Philippines on a primetime slot in 2017, but it is not yet known which station it will be. Either way, one thing is for sure: it's going to bring back anime to Pinoy TV.



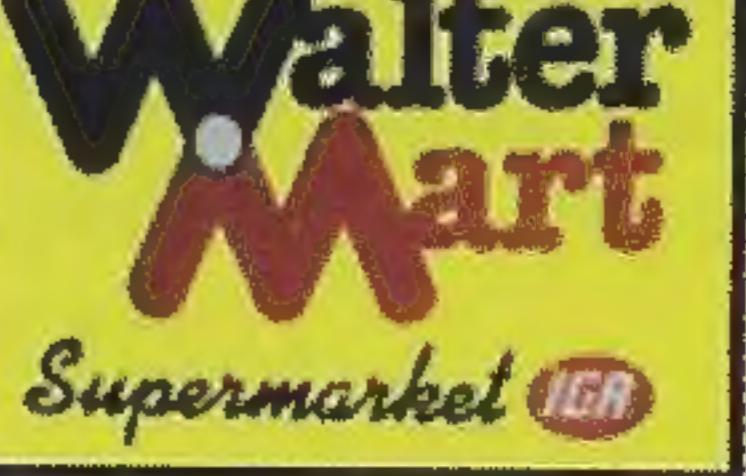
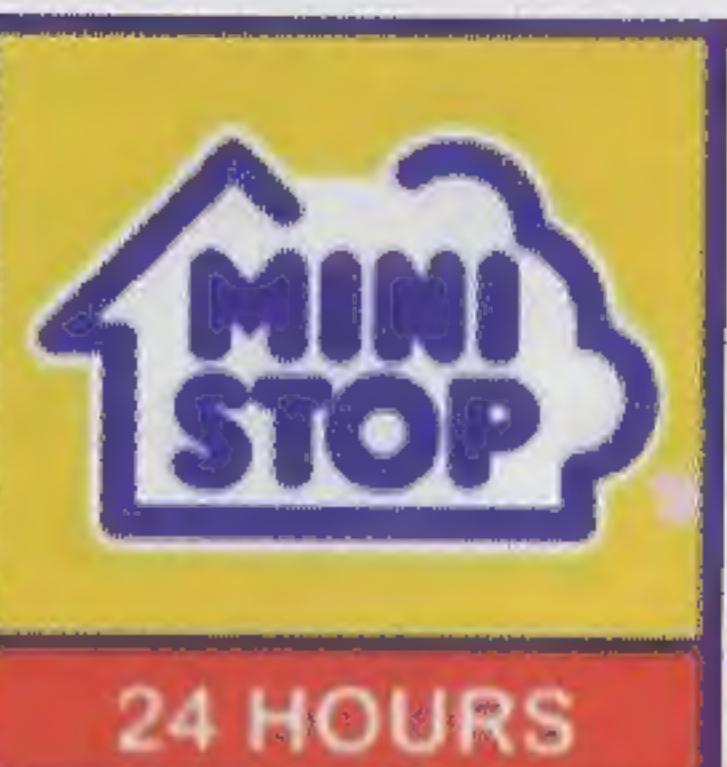
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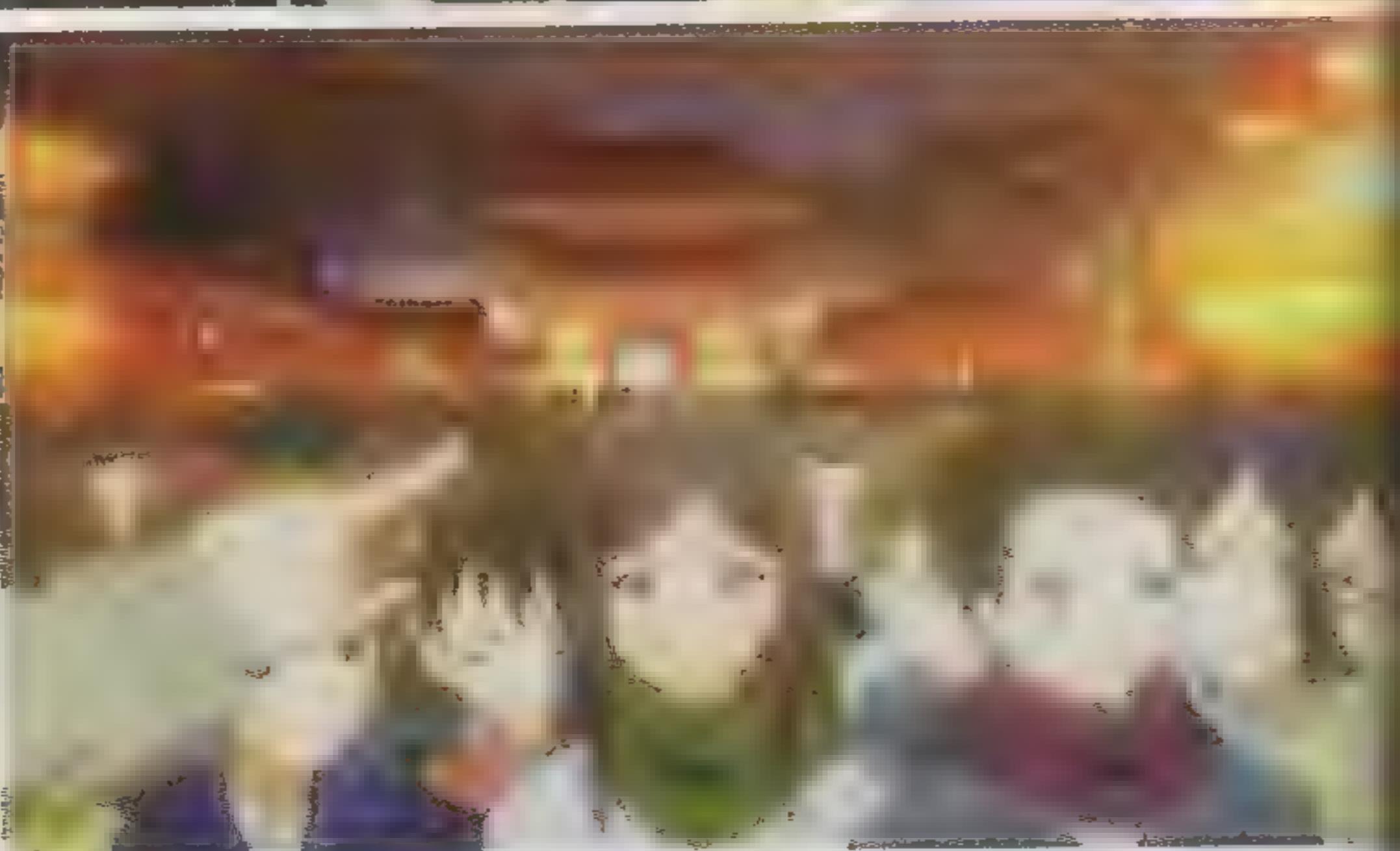
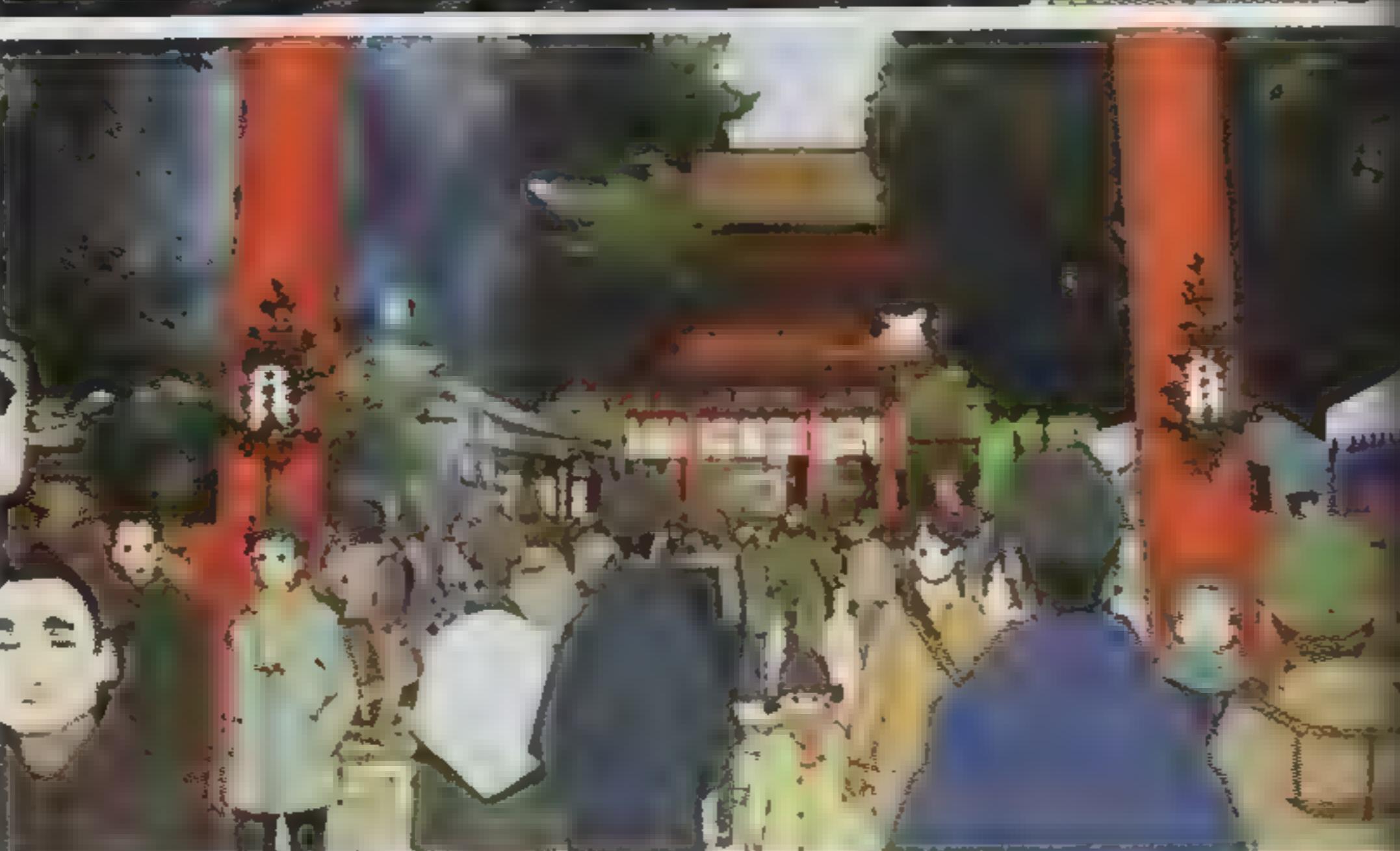
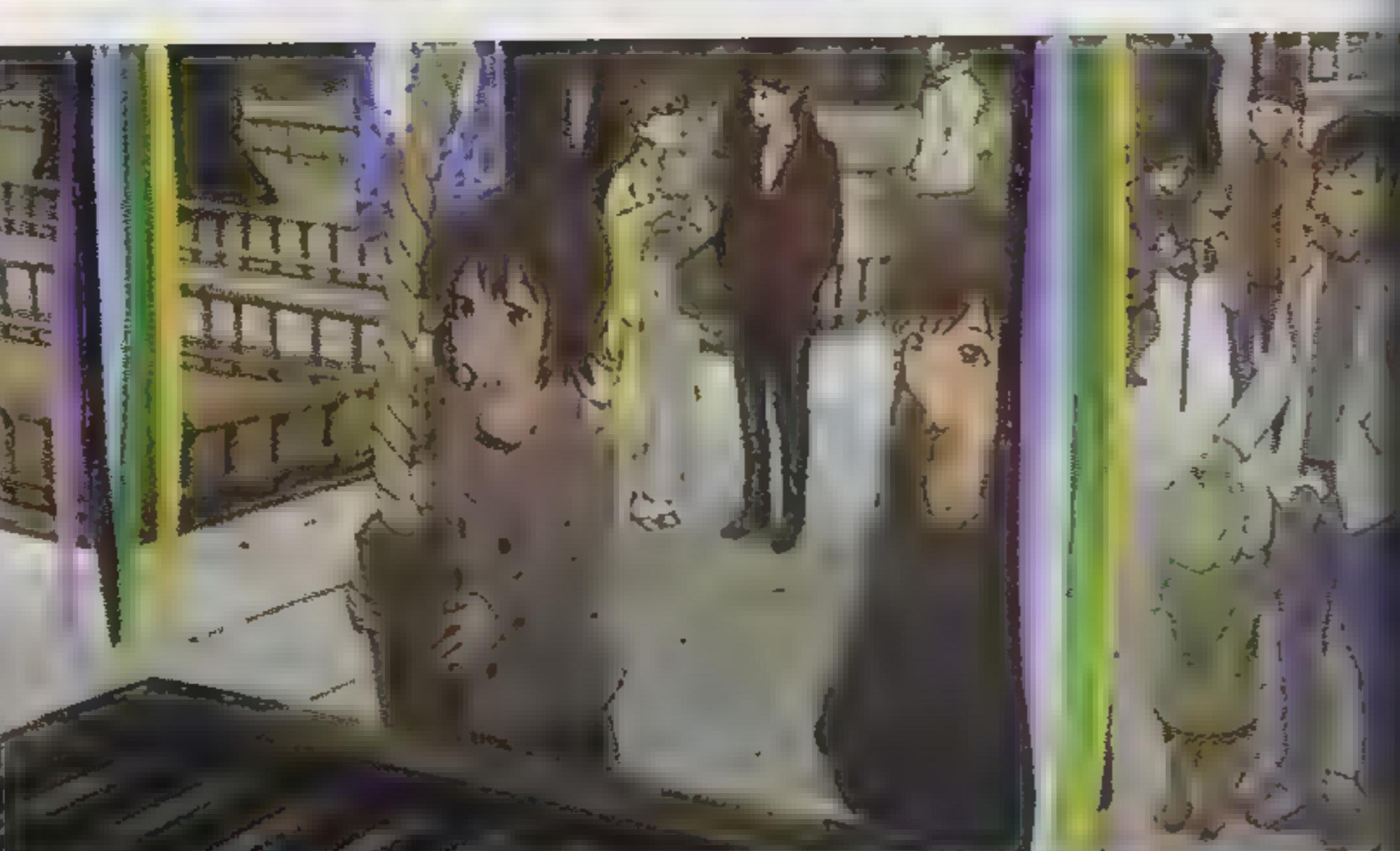
Worth All the Wait

by Ann

Long lines are blessings! It's hard to agree with this in most situations, but there is one occasion in which this is true, and that is in no other than Japan! The long lines in the shrines or temples on the first few days of the year represent just how faithful the people are to their beliefs. Now that's something we'd call blessings!

Apart from the crowd as blessings, this traditional event called Hatsumode is in itself a peaceful ceremony to pray for more blessings for the brand new year. Most people come to the shrine (Shinto) or temple (Buddhism) to pray for health, peace, and safety for the New Year and to be grateful for the blessings of the previous year.

By midnight, Joya no Kane, the bell that the temple rings 108 times to welcome the New Year is heard. By then, people come to the shrine to get in line to purify themselves and to worship. In worshipping, they go to the main part of the shrine, bow, drop a 5 or 10 yen coin into the offering box, ring the bell a few times, bow, clap twice, pray, and bow one last time.



Usually, people buy good luck charms such as the omamori (amulet) and hang a prayer plaque. As might be expected from the long lines in the shrines and temples, people would definitely get hungry, so snacks are available in food stalls just outside.

The Meiji Shrine in Tokyo is the most popular shrine for hatsumode with over three million visitors noted in 2007. Other popular sites include Fushimi Inari Taisha in Kyoto, Sumiyoshi Taisha in Osaka, and Narita-san Shinso Temple in Chiba. People are now happily traveling to a shrine or temple beyond the one near their houses despite the large crowd. The great news is that the Japanese don't worry so much when it comes to their safety because they can always ask at the police boxes for help if someone or something gets lost or there's an emergency.

It's really no surprise that Japan's history even reimagines long lines with virtues of patience and faith. So, don't dread this long line because it's a simple act to prove just how earnest we are in our prayers.



fishing for cream

by kanddy

If you don't know it yet, we at OA are fans of Japanese street food. The likes of okonomiyaki (Japanese pancakes), ikayaki (grilled squid), choco banana, takoyaki (octopus balls), yakisoba, ramen... actually there are a lot. For now, we talk about TAIYAKI which are fish shaped cakes... plus ice cream.

Taiyaki (たいやき) literally translated to 'baked (yaki) sea bream (tai)' even though there is no actual fish in the recipe, the name comes from the mold the snack is baked into. It's common to see taiyaki stands at any matsuri in the winter making people warm.

Taiyaki was created around 100 years ago in Japan and since its creation it's remained generally unchanged until very recently. The origin of the fish shape is unknown, but the most common belief is that, because sea bream were very expensive at the time it was shaped in such a way as to make the eater feel as if they were eating luxuriously. Tai (鯛), the Japanese word for sea bream also is similar to the Japanese word medetai (めでたい), meaning happy or prosperous, so they're often eaten to bring luck. The hiragana for taiyaki (たいやき) can be translated to having great taste.

Taiyaki's origin can be traced to imagawayaki (今川焼) (called oobanyaki (大判焼き) in the Kansai region of Japan.) Imagawayaki was first sold in the Edo period near the Kanda Imagawabashi bridge (神田今川橋) in the Kanda district of Tokyo, which is where it got its name. Imagawayaki is, like Taiyaki, a simple sweet made by sandwiching azuki in a simple pancake or waffle batter then baking them in a pre-shaped pan. The batter on imagawayaki, however, is poured on thicker than it is on taiyaki, leading to a softer, more cake-like texture.

source: asahiimports.com



Taiyaki in many ways has evolved as a snack and so many possible flavors and many toppings are available. Our favorite is the sprinkles, chocolate and more.

Lucky JPMM Taiyaki Ice Cream or Lucky Taiyaki is the first taiyaki ice cream to come in the Philippines. Their first stand was in a shopping mall in Cubao. The OA team once tried their goods and it turned out to be HELLA GOOD.

There are two ice cream flavors: vanilla or cheese or both. Then you can choose where it will be: classic Belgian waffle cone, their Black cookie cone made from crushed Oreos or the taiyaki cone. Of course we went for their taiyaki cone which needed to be cooked fresh. We patiently waited. Like we said in the article in Just Japan (page 18-19) where waiting makes the end better, it definitely was worth it.

We also got to choose from their many toppings: rice krispies, rainbow variants are available. Our favorite is the sprinkles, chocolate and more.

The ice cream was very soft and nice but not too soft to melt in your hand. They wait for the cake to cool before they place the ice cream to make sure it would not melt too fast and drip through.

The topping include this chocolate syrup, chocolate wafer stick and one choice of sprinkle. Additional sprinkle cost only P5. We recommend rice crispies in everything. The Belgian waffle cone is a classic and in big sizes. The ice cream is also served well inside the cone to give you more. The Black cookie cone is the same but gives you the additional sugar rush since it's made from Oreos.

Of course we would want you to try their Taiyaki off the bat and send us your order. Did you get sprinkles?



OTAKUGODDES



Queen Nehellenia once ruled over her peaceful and prosperous kingdom. She was respected and adored by all of her subjects and citizens alike. She has always been renowned for being the ideal ruler that possessed unparalleled beauty throughout her domain. Because of all the flattery and compliments, Nehellenia wanted to stay eternally beautiful and decided to gaze into a mirror to view her future self. However, what she saw is her ugly old visage which caused her dread and despair. Thus she obsessively extracted the dream mirror of all her subjects which allowed her to stay forever young resulting to the fall of her beloved kingdom.



Product Number: PF10020
Series: Sailor Moon
Scale: 1/6
Price: 7,915.72

Nehellenia formed the Dead Moon Circus which she commanded behind the scenes and as time passes, she discovered the powers of the Golden Crystal and she also plotted to overthrow the Queen of the Moon in order to take over the universe. At one point, Nehellenia was able to plunge the world into darkness until she was stopped by the Sailor Soldiers.

There are countless numbers of Sailor Moon figures available in the market but Queen Nehellenia products are scarce and are rare goods. A Sailor Moon popularity poll was held back in December 2015 which resulted to Nehellenia being in top rank despite being one of the villains in the series. ORI then listened to the fan's most popular demand and thus presented us with a wonderful gift.

Sculpting
Here we are presented with yet another alluring scale figure by ORI. The waves of Nehellenia's hair were neatly captured along with her elegant dress. Though her posture is simple, her slightly annoyed yet condescending face bring nostalgia toward fans.

Painting
The coloring is well done and is complimentary to her majestic character. The gradients of her curly hair has been adds a stunning overall beauty along with her multi-layered dress.

Price
For a 1/6 scale figure the price could be considered as steep but being a rare figure of the Queen of the Dark Moon, this is quite a nice bargain specifically for the undying fans of the Sailor Moon series.



This is a continuation of the garage kit tutorial from Otaku Asia issue #29. It is long due and partially because we have been preoccupied with other things since.

We have done the ff:
Check the pieces
Sanded the flashes

I didn't actually finish my sanding and in the end used a nail file. I was lucky to find one that had a handle and was grainy so it only took me a few minutes.

Next is to **FIX THE FITTING**. You will have to inspect all the pieces again for oversanding, holes and fitting errors. This happens when the pieces that go together are loose, wobbly and/or leaves a gap. For the **Saber Cafe Shop Maid** figure, there were only a few which greatly pleased me since I have heard that garage kits from E2046 used to have a lot of problem areas. I only had to fix a few.

There are a number of ways to fix a fitting problem and I have already named **Milliput** and **Apoxie Sculpt**. However, I have since been told that they are not good? I'll still have to find out for myself.



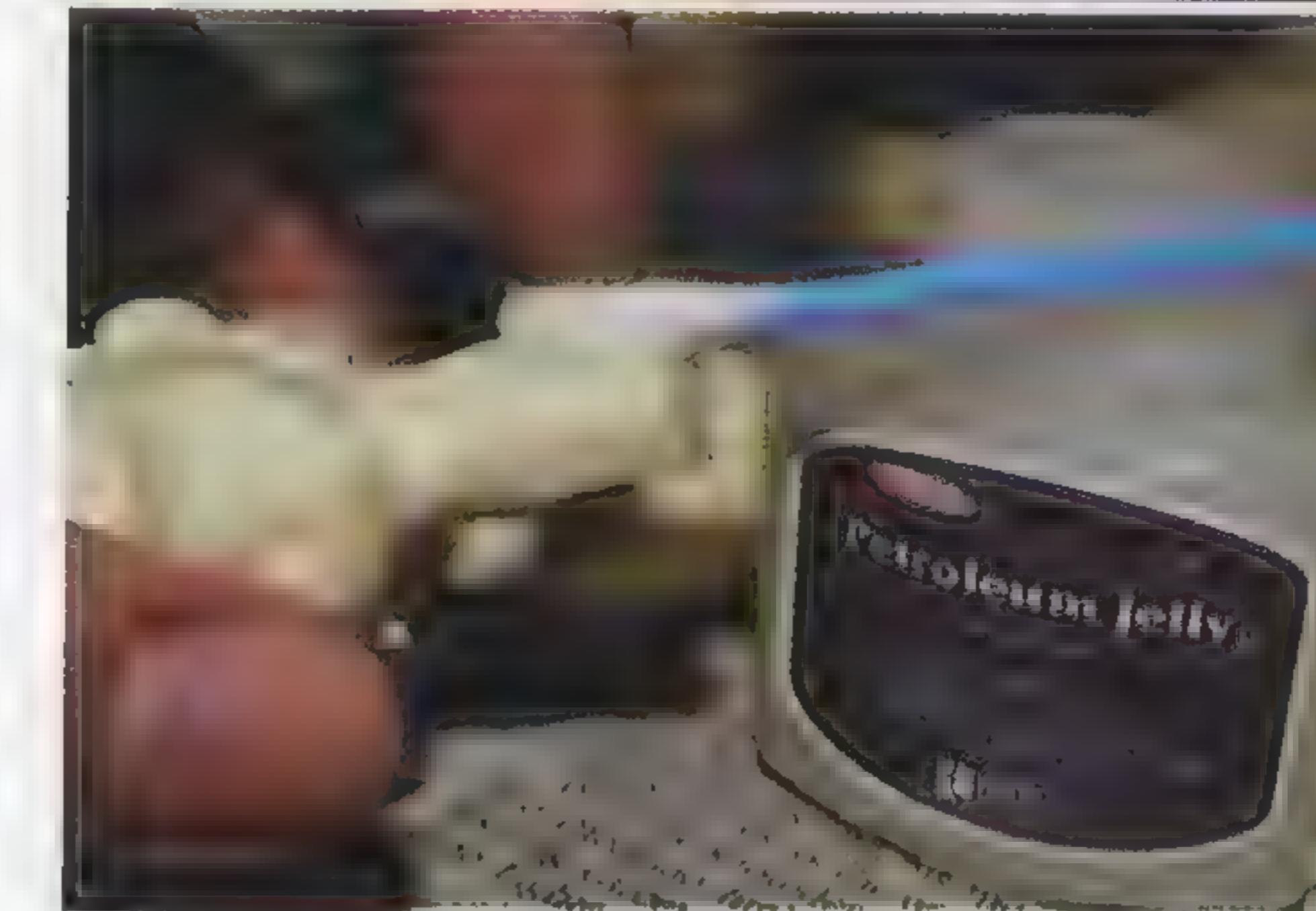
For this project I shopped for materials from local hobby shops. One of them was Lil's hobby Center in SM malls. They had Tamiya products that are very helpful.

This is Tamiya Putty. It can come in two colors, gray and white. I chose the white because my primer is also white. For my pictures, I have already put together The hair and the head since there were a few gaps then I will show you how I secured the head to the torso.

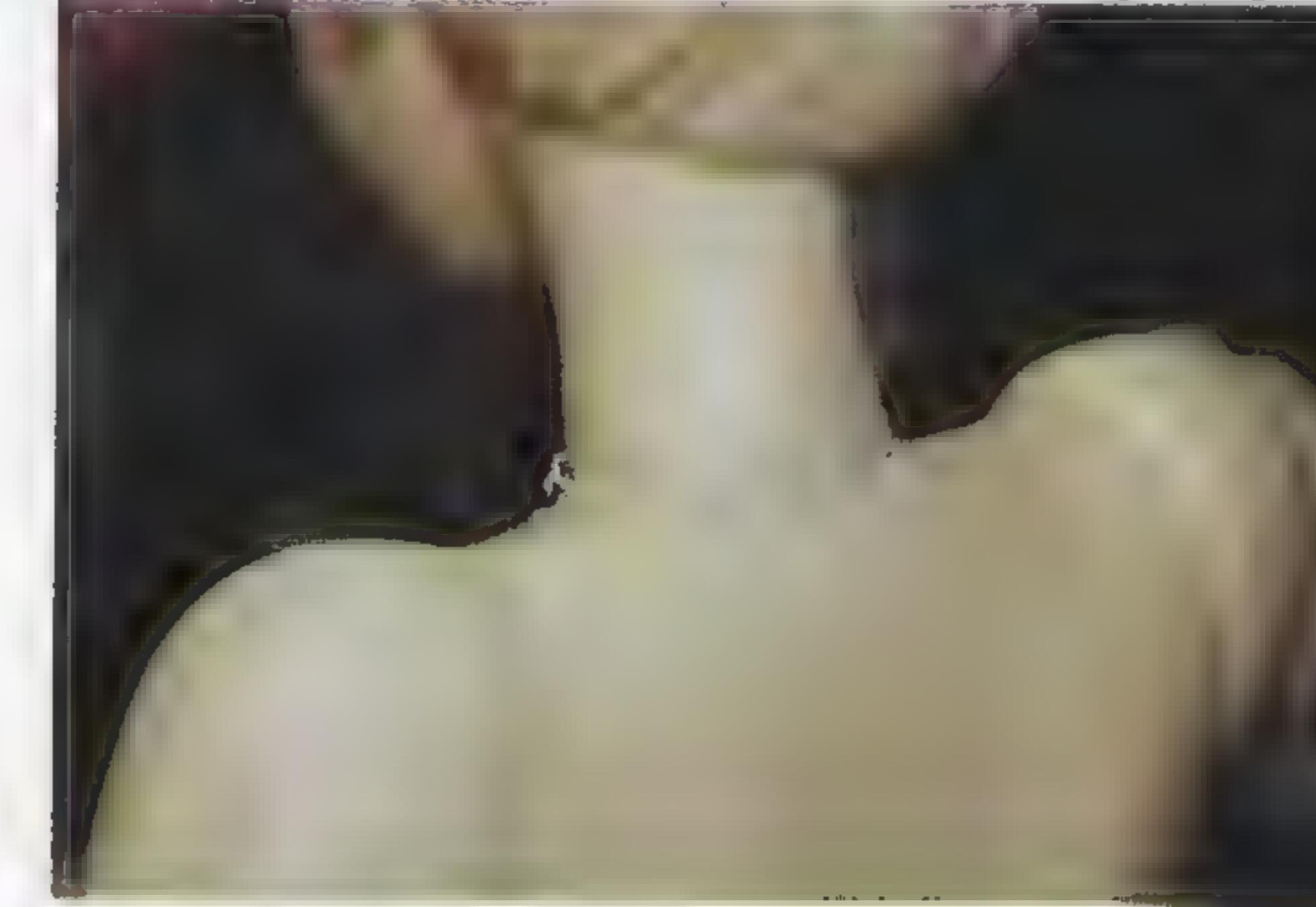
First of all, I have realized that Apoxie Sculpt would have been a better choice for this so please think of the putty as Apoxie instead. Thank you.



Here you could see a slight gap. So I've placed a the putty inside:

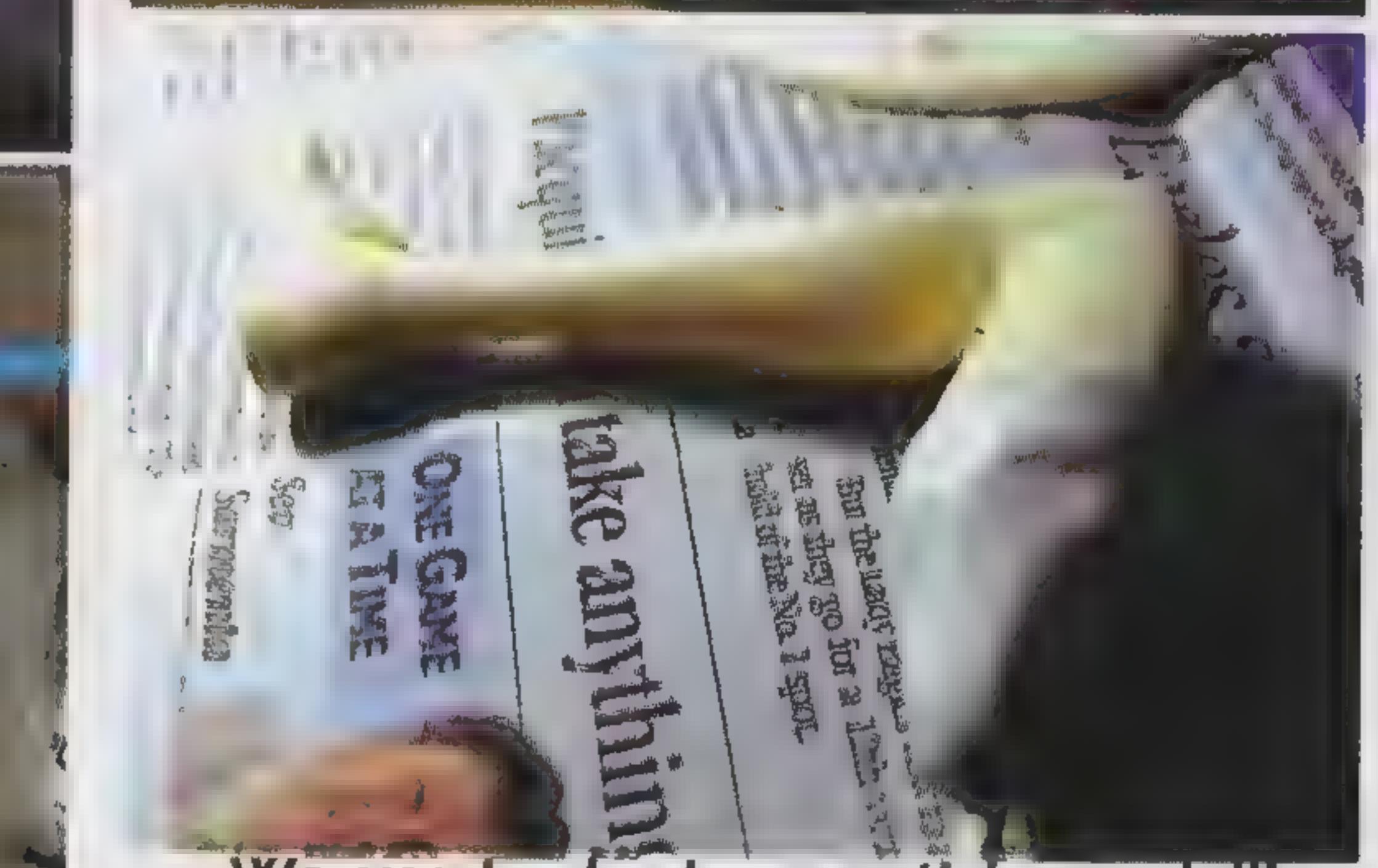


I glazed the head part with petroleum jelly so that the putty would not glue the two pieces together. Then I fit them and the putty will seal the gap! Use a toothpick to clean off the excess putty.



I initially had an airspray to borrow so I was told to buy a liquid surface primer but now I wasn't able to borrow it and I will have to use a brush.

Paint brushing a figure one way or another will actually leave a slight texture on the surface from the brush and layers of paint so it's not really recommended. But since we are beginners here, we will show you how a brush painted figure will look like. Once again using Tamiya products.



We used a barbecue stick, modelling clay and styrofoam. There are also clips available for this but we did not get to use them. We noticed that the primer dries fast so try to make an even one layer of primer. Stick the parts to a styrofoam to dry. We'll be back for the painting.





COSPLAY

EXTREME MOMENTS V



CN: Lix Tsu

FF Character: Materia

Photography by: Johann Lim of Imagovis Photography

at Corregidor:

A Cosplay Adventure of a Lifetime

By Xtian Mack and Rin Lim

The cosplay odyssey that started a year ago and spanned some of the most beautiful locations in the Philippines made its fifth and final stop at historic Corregidor. After months of extensive and careful preparations, TeamXM, the organizers behind the Extreme Moments Out-of-Town Cosplay Project Series, got to pull off another amazing feat with **Extreme Moments 5**, dubbed "*The Final Wrath*." With the Final Fantasy game series as its theme and inspiration for this edition, 88 intrepid souls went on a cosplay adventure of a lifetime to the fortified island south of Manila Bay.

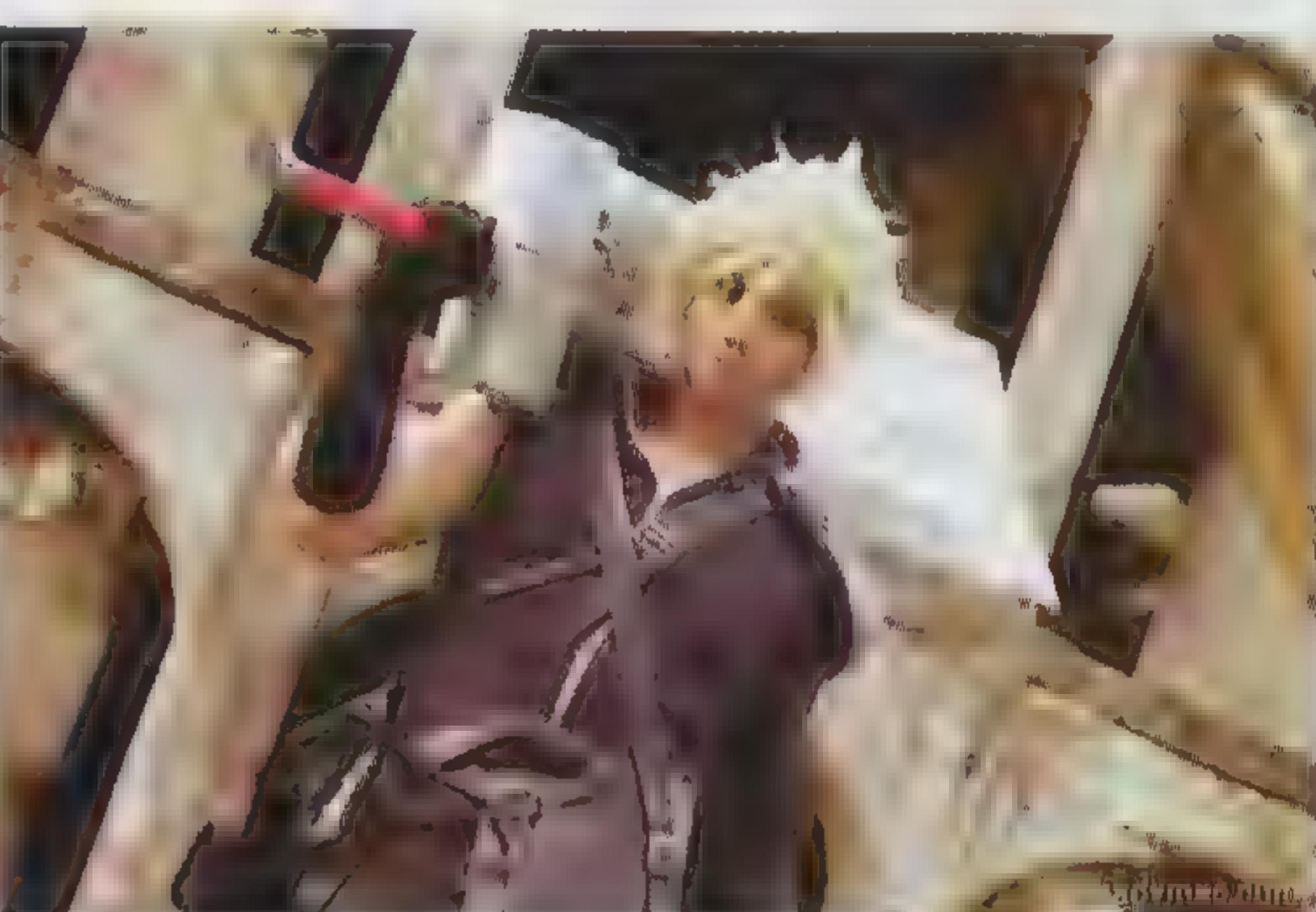


Filling entire buses and boats with cosplayers and photographers for fun and exciting shoots in distant but spectacular locations outside the city in the span of two years, having shot in Capones Island in Zambales, at Mt. Samat in Bataan, at Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar in Bataan, then at Fortune Island off the coast of Batangas, Extreme Moments has become a highly anticipated event for the community for its efforts to provide a refreshingly unique experience far different from the usual conventions or events people have gotten used to.



The Extreme Moments Out-of-Town Cosplay Project Series has been one of the most ambitious collaborative efforts the Philippine cosplay community has ever seen. The past four editions of Extreme Moments have pushed the limits of creativity, skill and imagination of cosplayers and photographers alike in an out-of-town outdoor adventure like no other. This time the participants went off to the historic island Corregidor for an endeavor never before attempted by the community.

story continues on page 30





A Great First Sushi Book Vegetarian Sushi Secrets

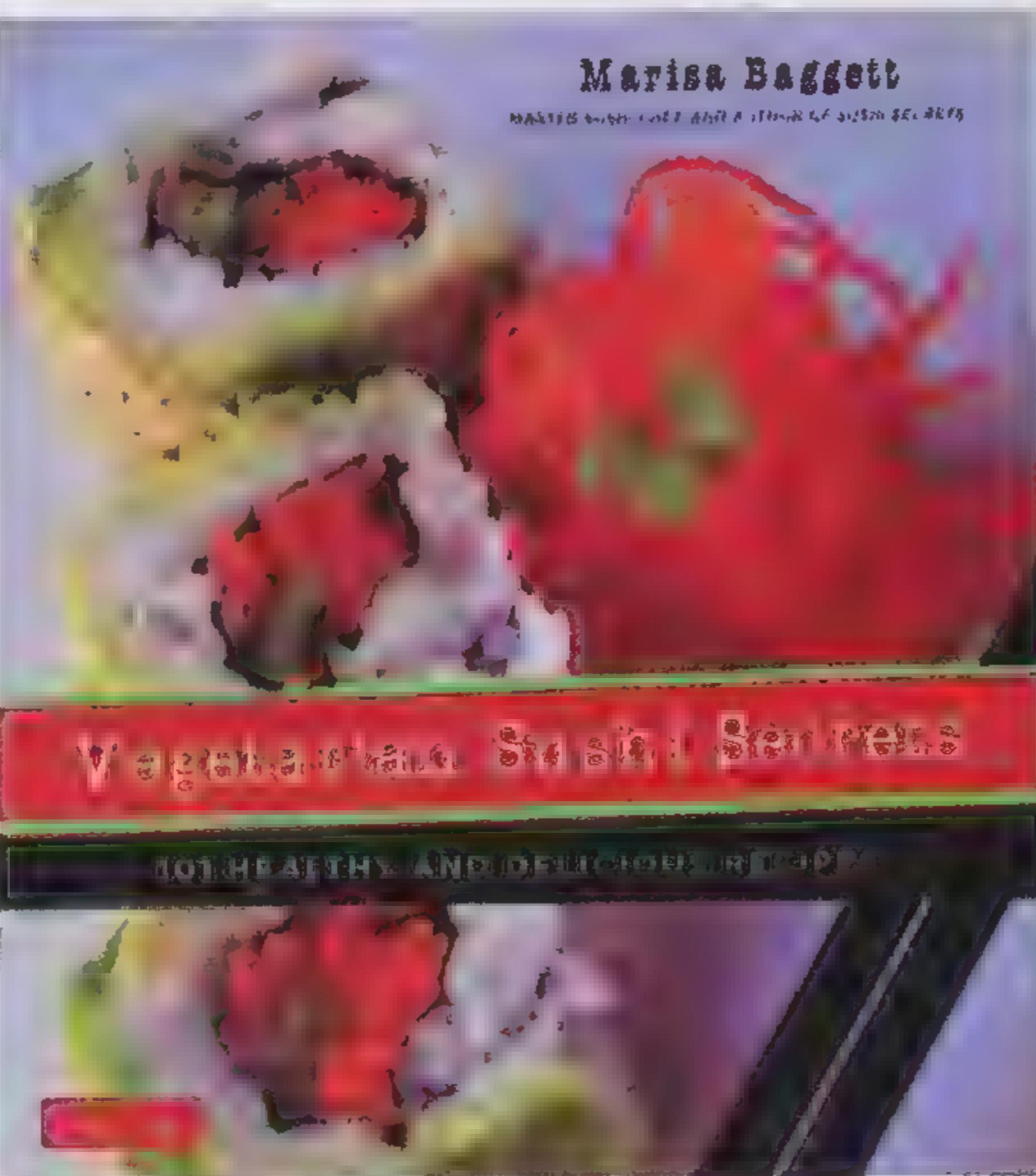
by kandy

To be honest, I'm not vegetarian and I love sushi with all its rawness and fishiness. However, it may not be like that for everyone. If you are vegan, this might start you on sushi and all other Japanese cuisines. Written by American sushi expert Marisa Baggett, the recipes take full advantage of the freshest garden vegetables, herbs, tofu, mushrooms and spices available at your local farmer's market.

These recipes are about combining delicious rice with tantalizing pairings you might not have tried or thought of before, such as:

Apple & daikon radish
Cucumber & peanut
Spicy carrot & tomato
Pomegranate & basil
Ginger & beet
Summer corn & pickled okra
Sweet potato & shiitake mushrooms
Strawberry & rhubarb

Marisa starts by giving surefire recipes for making perfect sushi rice every time. She provides tips on which vegetables work best with sushi rice and how to create your own original combinations. Vegetarian Sushi Secrets is a gem of a Sushi cookbook that shows you how to make foolproof thin rolls, thick rolls, inside-out rolls, hand rolls, bowl rice sushi and many more in no time at all!



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**TRAINER iNSPiRED
HOODiES**

**EXTREME MOMENTS
HAVE PUSHED THE LIMITS
OF CREATIVITY, SKILL AND
IMAGINATION OF
COSPLAYERS AND
PHOTOGRAPHERS ALIKE
IN AN OUT-OF-TOWN
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
LIKE NO OTHER**



**Extreme Moments 5 at
Corregidor:...**
story continued from page 26

After months of tedious and careful preparation, which included the casting of the cosplayers, to the selection of photographers, to onsite location inspections, the final edition of the Extreme Moments series went underway with the gathering at the Sun Cruises ferry terminal at the Seaside at the Mall of Asia Complex. With participants literally coming from all over the country, it was truly an exciting gathering of individuals with different backgrounds, styles, personalities and expectations slowly coming together as they shared the same passion. It was exciting enough that some came as early as 3 am, even with the call time still four hours away. Aside from the veterans of the series, some having part of all previous ones or from the very beginning, a majority of the participants were first-timers to XM, and they were as eager as any to have the journey underway.

The 88 participants got on the ferry as it left the terminal around 9, arriving an hour or so later on the island. Corregidor is located at the entrance of Manila Bay around 45 kilometers from the city. Despite still being classified by PHIVOLCS as a potentially active volcano, its location has made the island of strategic importance in terms of defense, having been used by the Spanish and Americans as a fortified area against enemy ships planning to attack Manila. It figured prominently during World War II with the heroic defense of American and Filipino soldiers against Japanese invaders. Today, Corregidor is a historic monument as well as a famous tourist destination.

CN: Sumi Go
FF Character: Yuna
Photography by: Charlie Yap of PhotoHand Works Photography



Taking heavily bombardment during the closing moments of World War II, the ruins that have remained on the island still stand as a memorial to American, Filipino and Japanese soldiers who served or lost their lives there. For this, Corregidor remains one of the most important historic and tourist sites in the country. With varying topography and features, with forests, hills, cliffs, plains, beaches and slopes, along with the ruins and structures both old and new, Corregidor is an enticing place for a shoot like no other. Utmost care was taken by the participants to preserve the state of the structures on the island as they had their shoot in its many rustic and breathtaking locations.



The photographers meticulously prepared and brought their gear and the cosplayers finished their painstaking preparations early in the afternoon, and when the shoot began in earnest, everyone tried their best to make their shots. The time to shoot was also limited as there were lots of photographers and cosplayers to do shoots with, and with assistants helping them out. Seeing them at work was nothing short of amazing. Despite those, the team was still in good spirits and there was always time to have some fun and chat with each other and take photos with everyone. At the end of the first day, the team was treated to a buffet dinner which everyone enjoyed to the limit. Laughter, jeers and smiles were

PUTTING ALL THAT EFFORT FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE SHOT
DESPITE THE FATIGUE OVER TWO STRAIGHT DAYS OF SHOOTING
WAS NOTHING SHORT OF INCREDIBLE



CN: Yhu Mei
FF Character: Prishe
Photography by: Ruichi Realista of sidelightsimages Photography

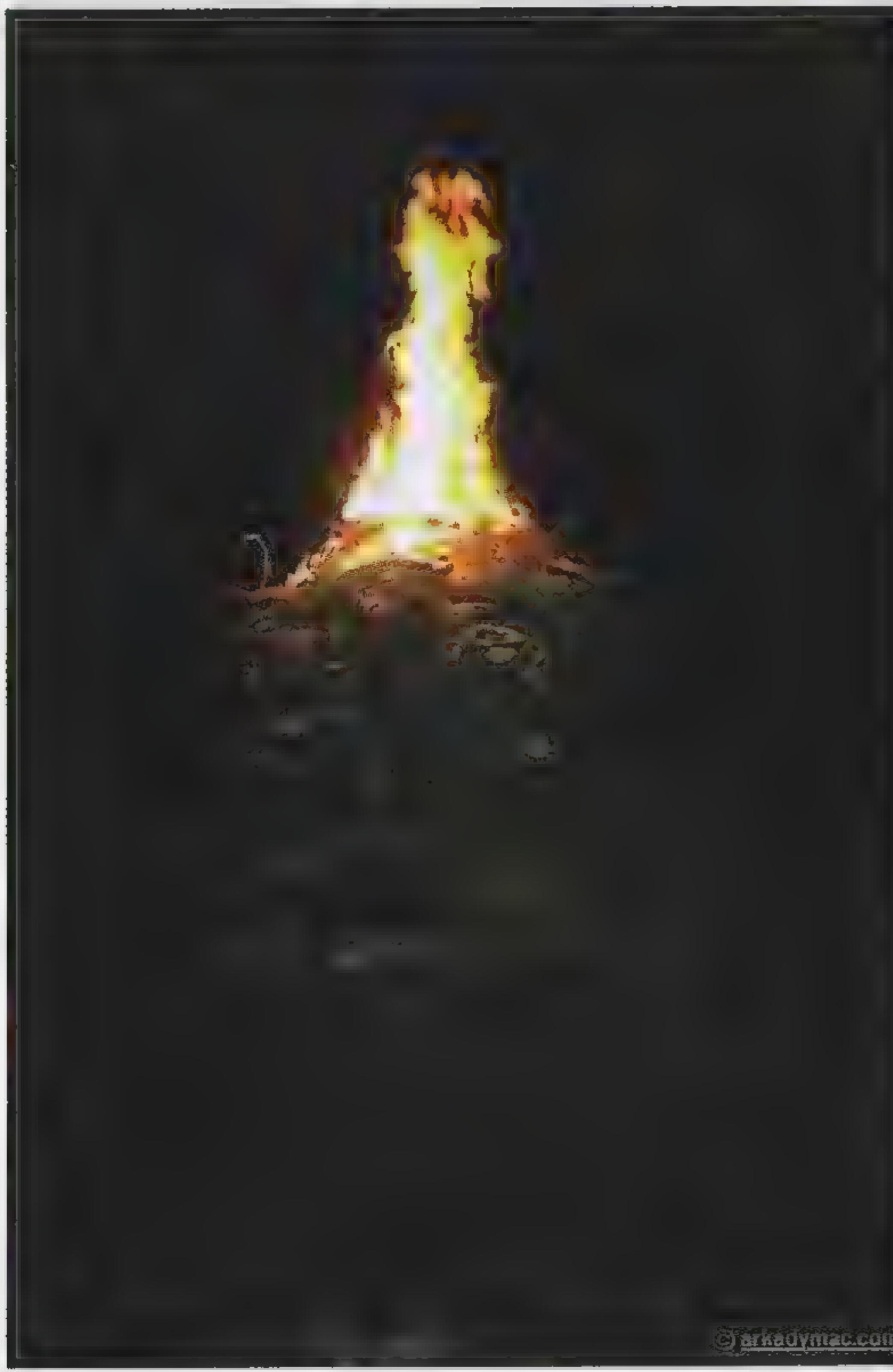
everyone. At the end of the first day, the team was treated to a buffet dinner which everyone enjoyed to the limit. Laughter, jeers and smiles were everywhere as everyone enjoyed each other's company and the accomplishment of having done good work the first day. They all then went back to their lodgings by the beach, where a bonfire awaited them. Some got to play games and sang videoke till the wee hours of the morning.



and every pose. After lunch it was time to leave the island, and at the terminal everyone had a hard time saying goodbye to each other, having bonded so well and having made great new friendships and having shared so many wonderful memories together. Everyone was spent and exhausted but all had a sense of accomplishment from taking part in this very rare event.

To see more of the astounding work that has been released since Extreme Moments 5, visit the Extreme Moments FB Page for info and updates at <https://www.facebook.com/XtremeMoments>. For coverages of the previous Extreme Moment editions, do visit arkadymac.com.

CN: Dominique Silla
FF Character: Cecil Harvey
Photography by: Stephen Ian Advincula of Syl Photography



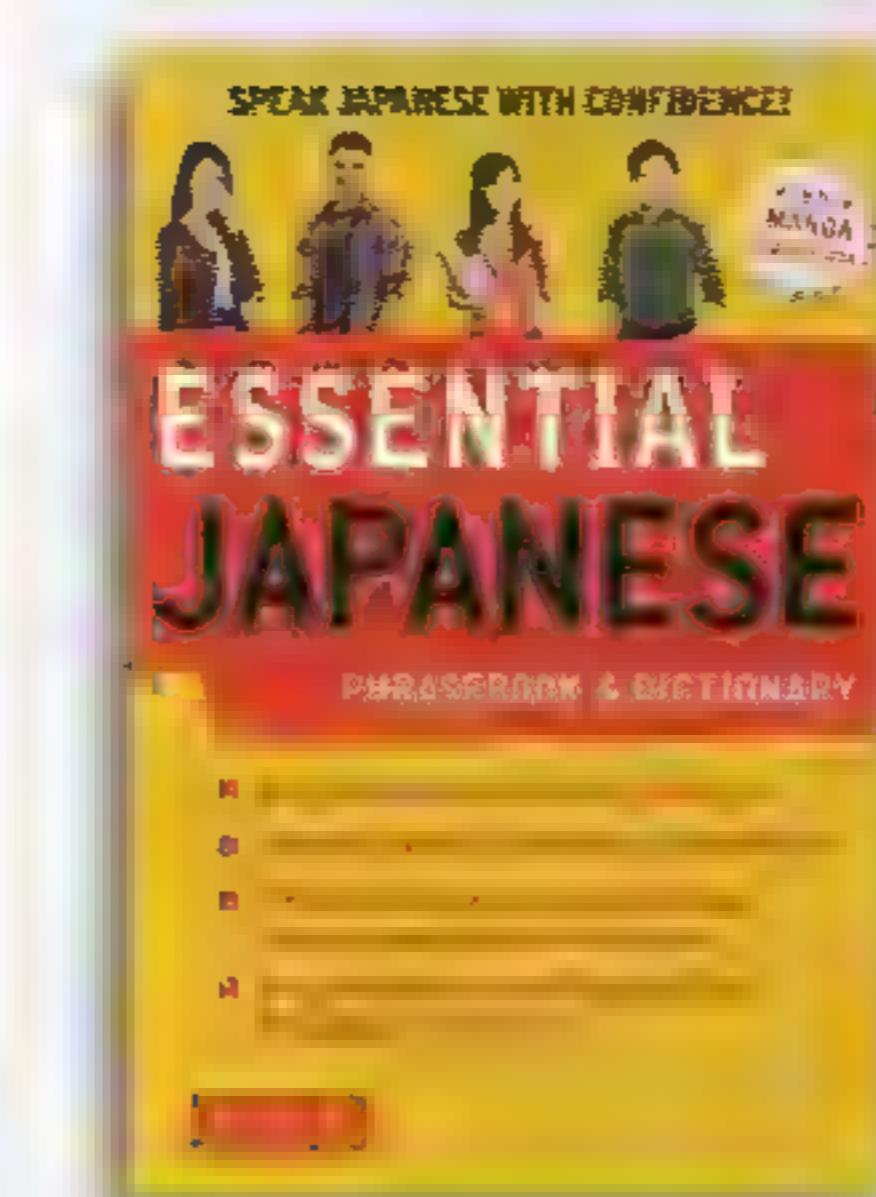
TeamXM, the people behind Extreme Moments, shared their thoughts on the final installment of the series:

"We would like to thank all the cosplayers and photographers who believe in our little vision to take cosplay photography to the next level of quality and enjoyment in some of the best tourist destinations in our country. We hope that this move can encourage our fellow cosplayers and cosplay photographers to create more out of town shoots so the world can see some of beautiful tourist spots in our country and at the same time provide a spotlight for our talented cosplayers and cosplay photographers."

Otaku Asia congratulates all the organizers of Extreme Moments 5, cosplayers, photographers and friends. Thank you Jeff Ricalde, Christian Macabales and Rin Lim. All photos are credited to their photographers. Behind the scenes shots were provided by arkadymac.com

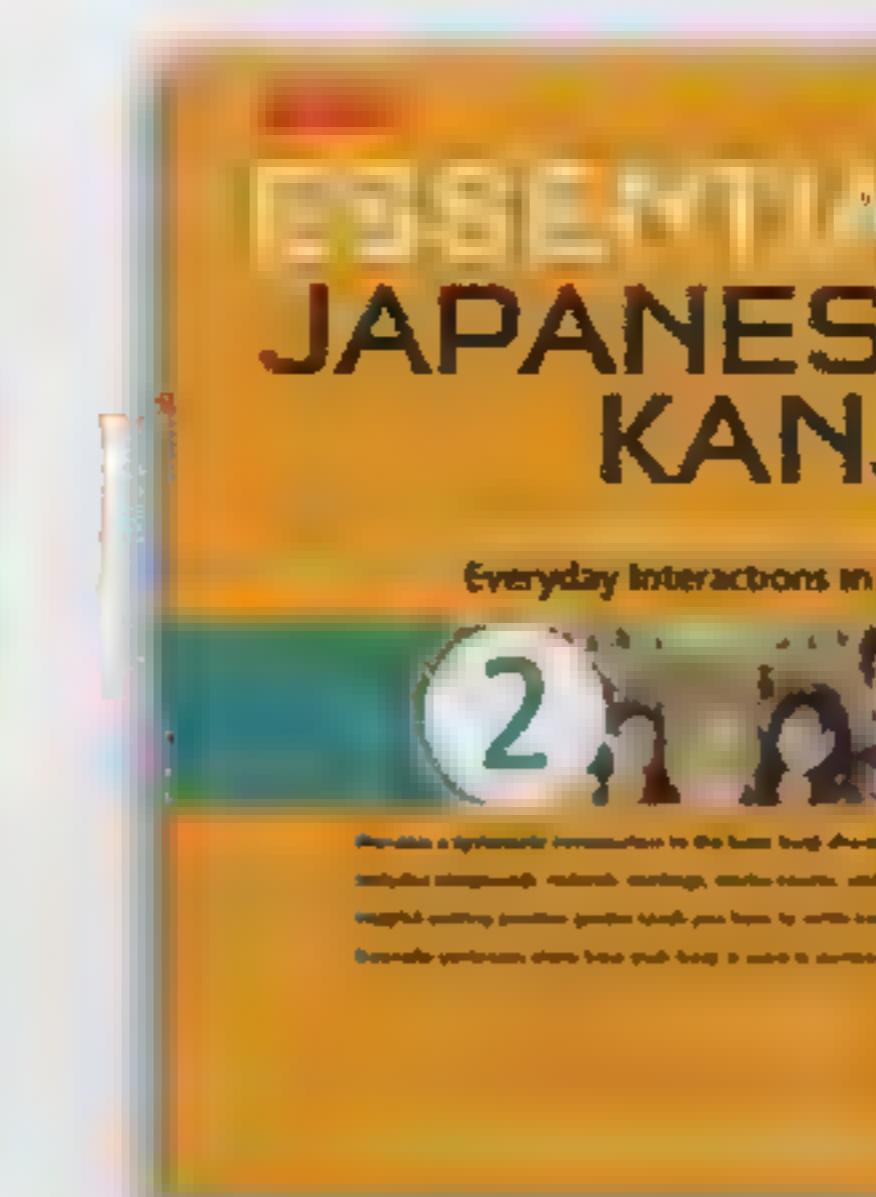
TUTTLE

SEPTEMBER NEW RELEASES



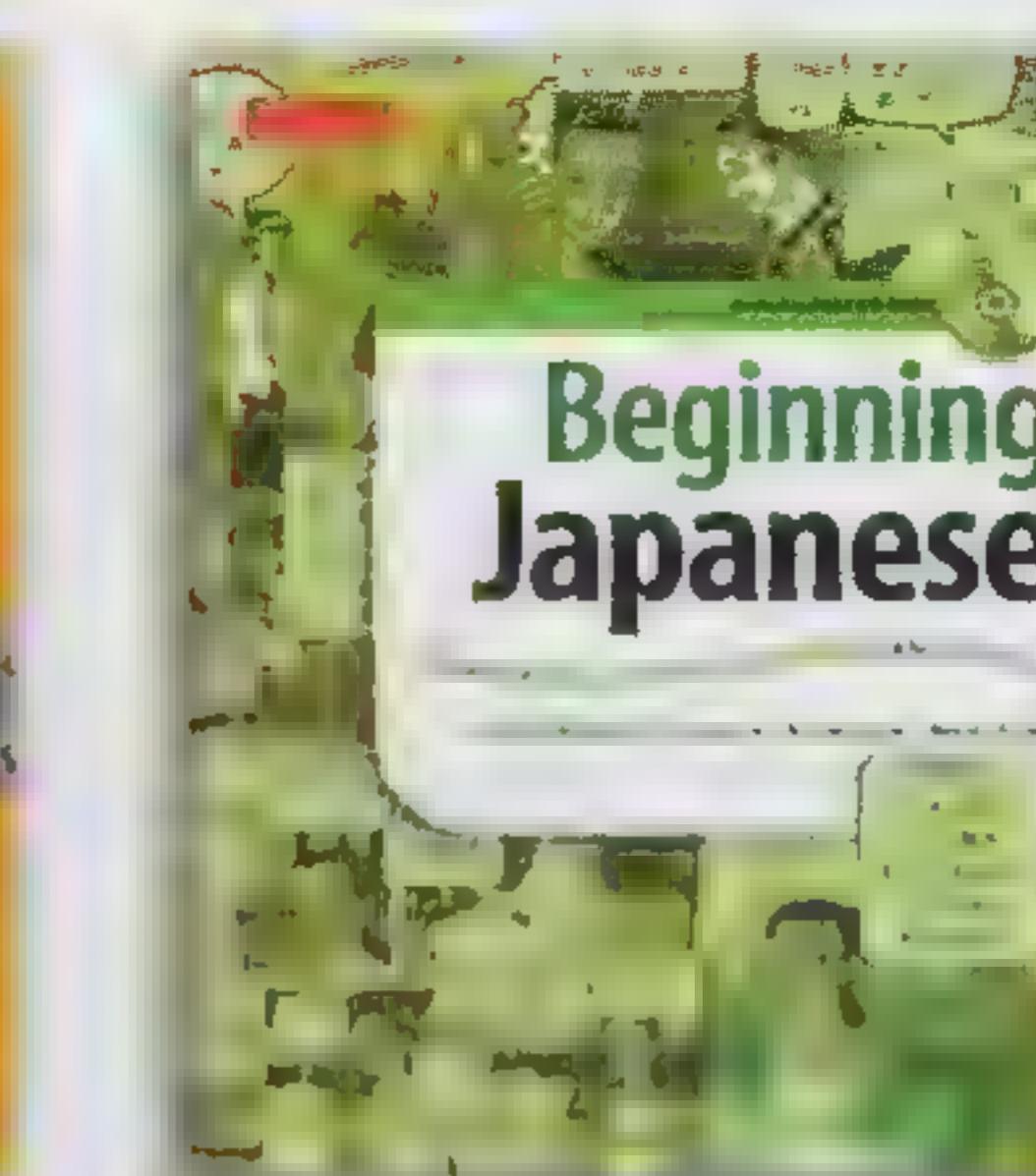
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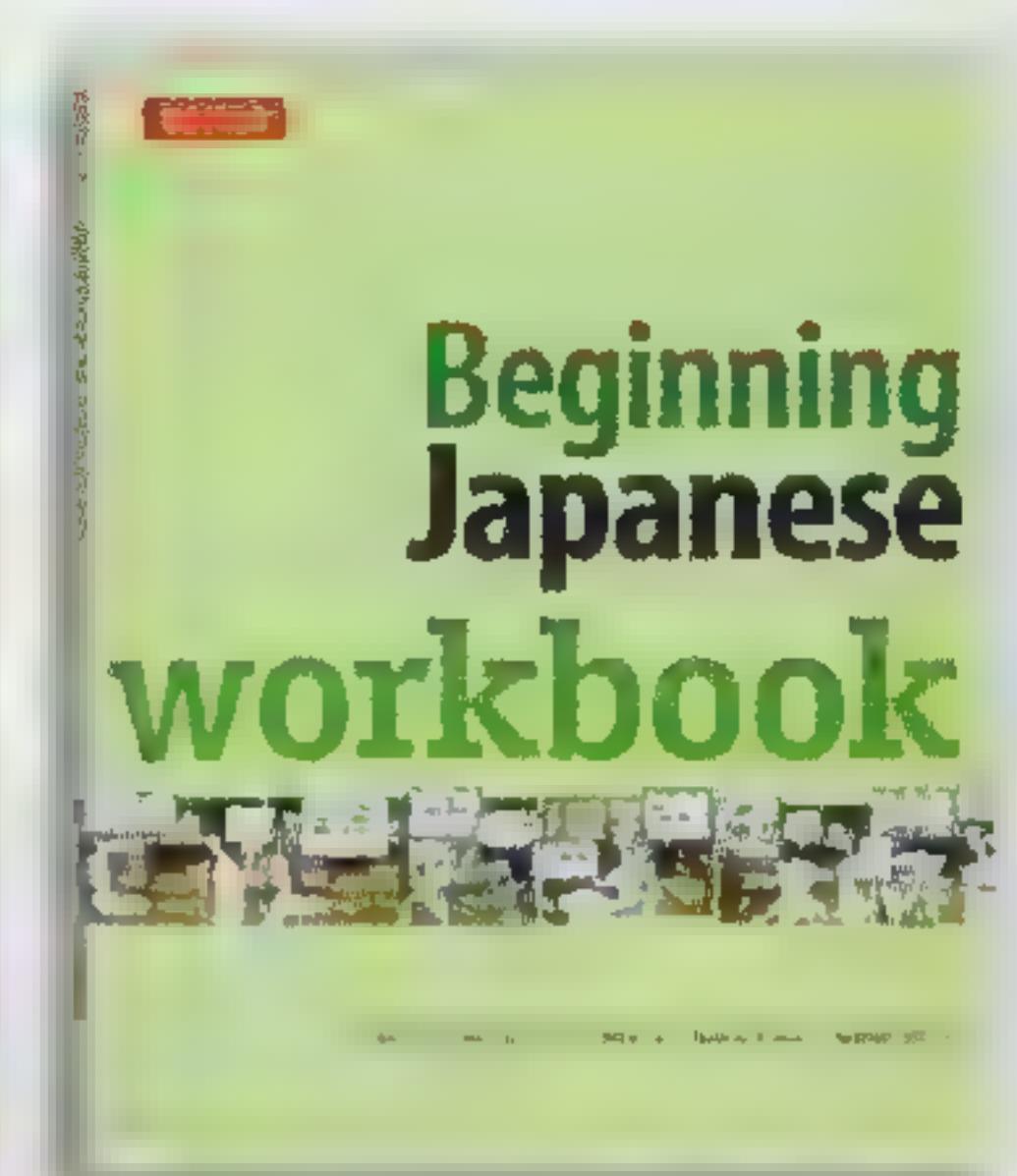
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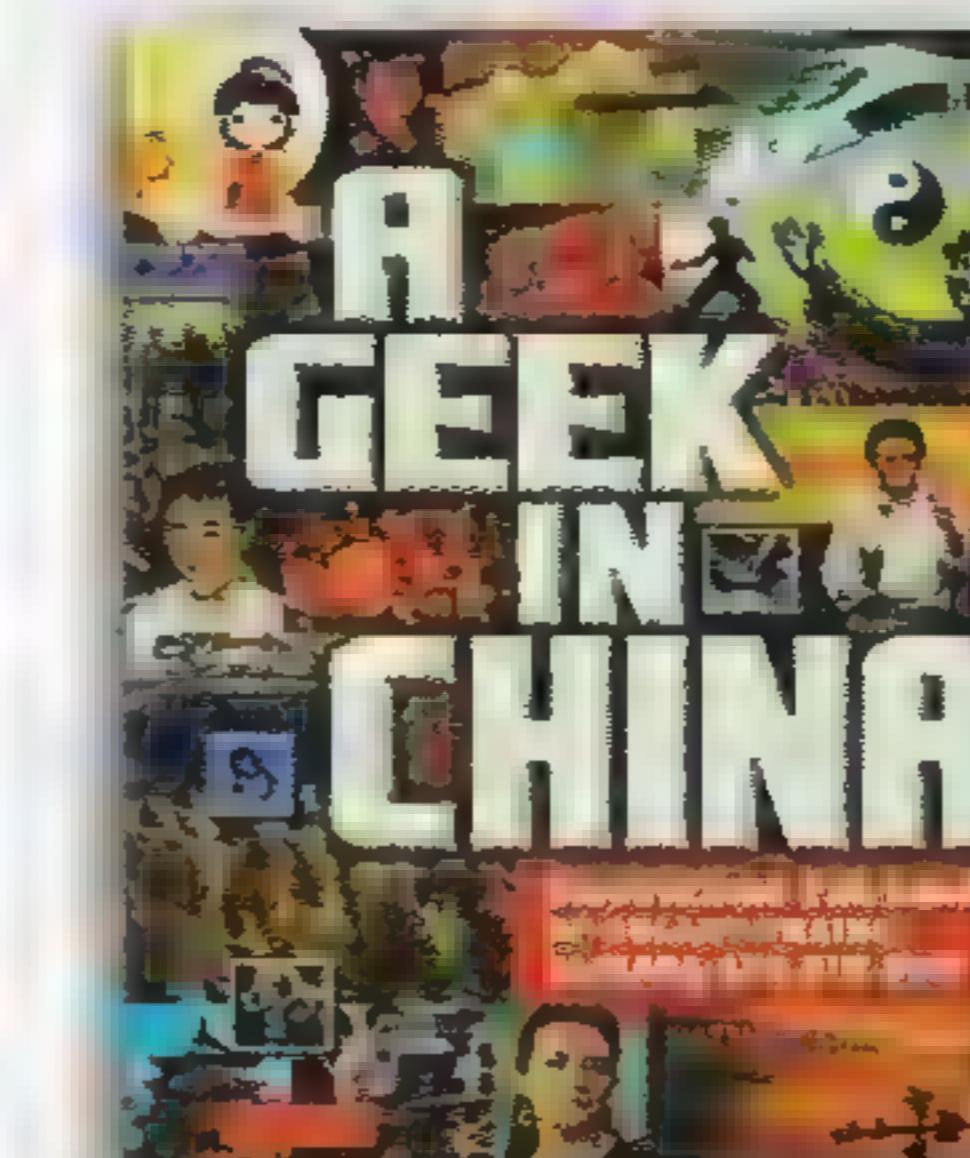
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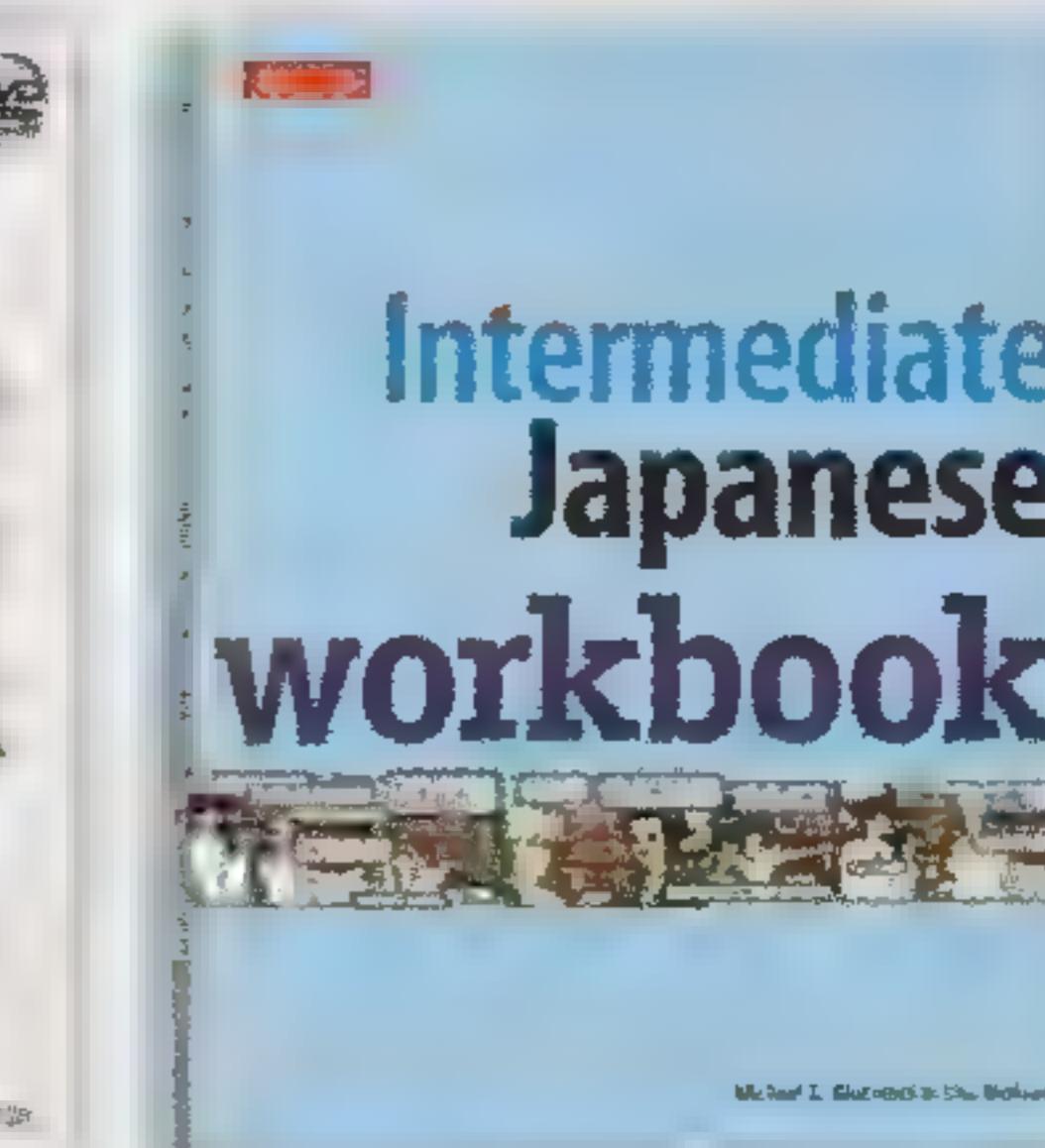
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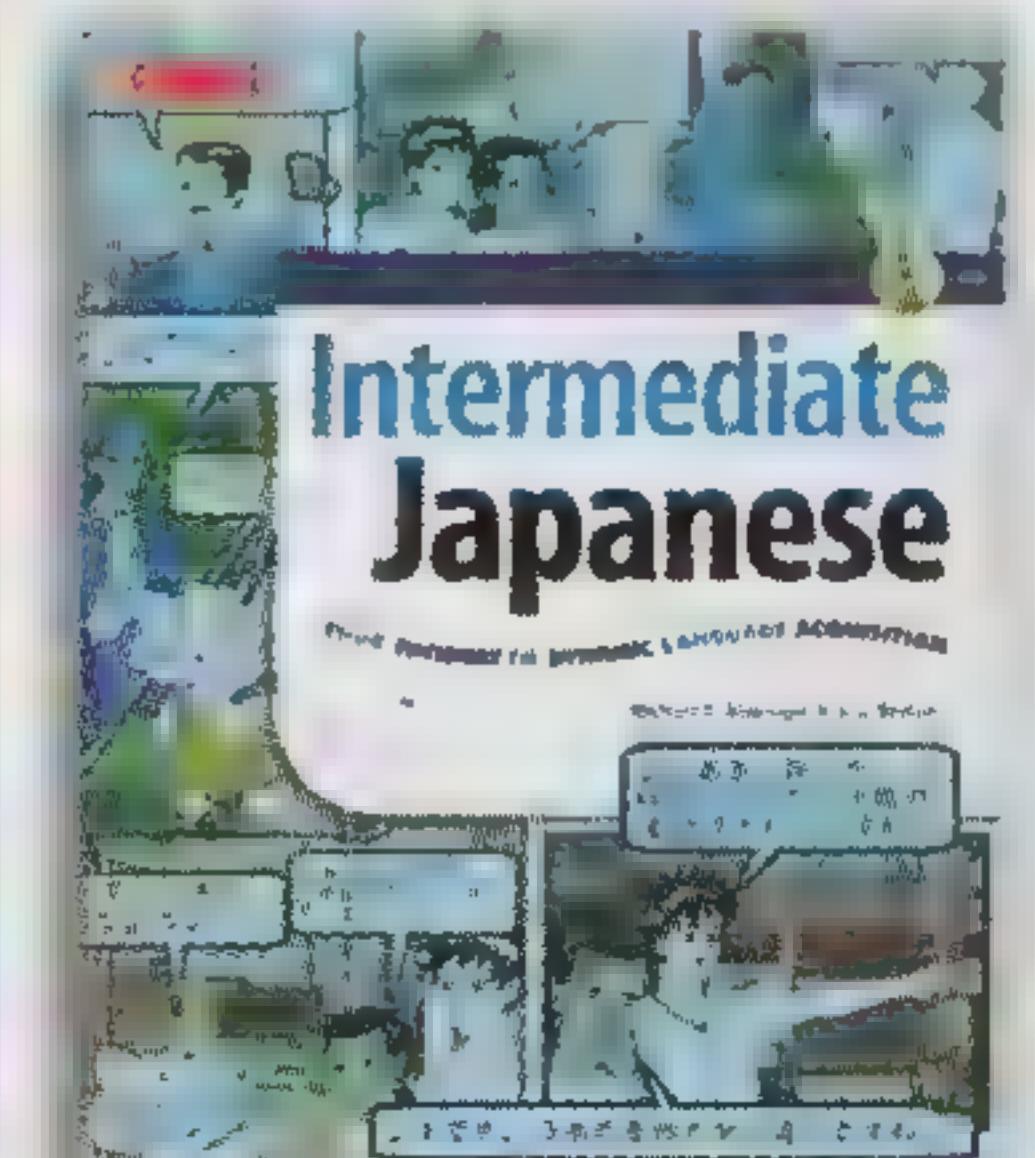
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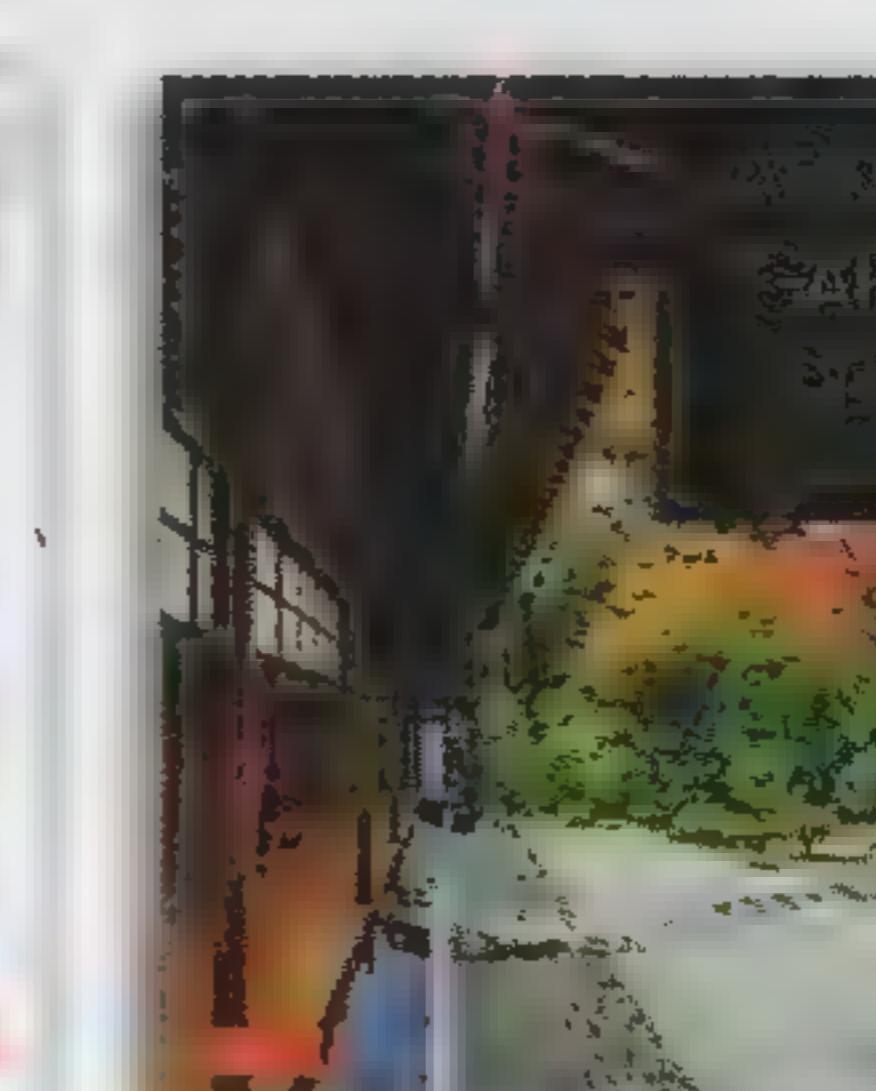
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Anju Inami

by lizac 3.0

The charming Anju Inami has started to make a name for herself as an artist in Japan. With the diversity of projects she has been receiving since she debuted, it is quite incorrect to label her only as a voice actress, but as a multitalented artist altogether. Anju was sixteen when she won the second Grand Prix of Sony Music Artists Anistoteles audition. She received her first voice acting role in *Animegatari* in the year 2015. Her biggest break so far is being cast in *Love Live! Sunshine!!* in 2016 as Chika Takami, the idol group leader.

Profile

Nicknames: Anchan

Birthday: February 7, 1996

Agency: Sony Music Artists

Color scheme in concerts: Orange

Groups: Aqours, CYaRon!

Hobbies: Watching movies, karaoke

Favorite game and anime show: *Love Live!*

Favorite food: chicken meat

Voice actress whom she looks up to: Aya Hirano

Notable roles in different media:

Voice Acting:

Animegatari as Erika

Love Live! Sunshine!! as Chika Takami

Wonder Momo as Yumi Fujita

Stage plays:

Live Spectacle Naruto as Ino Yamanaka

Fairy Tail as Angel

Super Dangan Ronpa 2 The Stage

~Sayonara Zetsubō Gakuen~ as Mioda

Ibuki

Radio shows:

Inami Anju no Hachamecha

Mechamecha Ii Desu ka!? (AG-ON station)

Love Live! Sunshine!! Aqours

Uranohoshi Jogakuin Radio!! (Hibiki Radio Station)

Anchan is actually quite different from Chika Takami of *Love Live! Sunshine!!* Anchan was nervous when she got the role as a leader. A lot of pressure had built up, making her conscious of her performances and if she is doing right by the fans. However, with the help of her friends and by studying Chika's character, Anchan was able to overcome pressure. Chika is a delightful second year at Uranohoshi Girls' High School. She became inspired to form a club like μ. Despite being rejected during member recruitment, she did not give up forming a school idol club. This is where their similarities come to place. Anchan, at such a young age, worked hard to share her talent in singing. She also juggled both her studies at the Yoyogi Animation School and her commitment as a Sony Artist.

Anchan has undoubtedly received projects that continue to challenge her personality, which makes us see a new part of who she is in the roles that she portrays. This only proves that this talented young lady could do so much more. Anchan is a rising star everyone has to look out for, in the anime and entertainment industry as a whole.

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Otaku Asia Magazine Issue # 37

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ESGS

E-SPORTS AND GAMING SUMMIT

HIGHLIGHTS

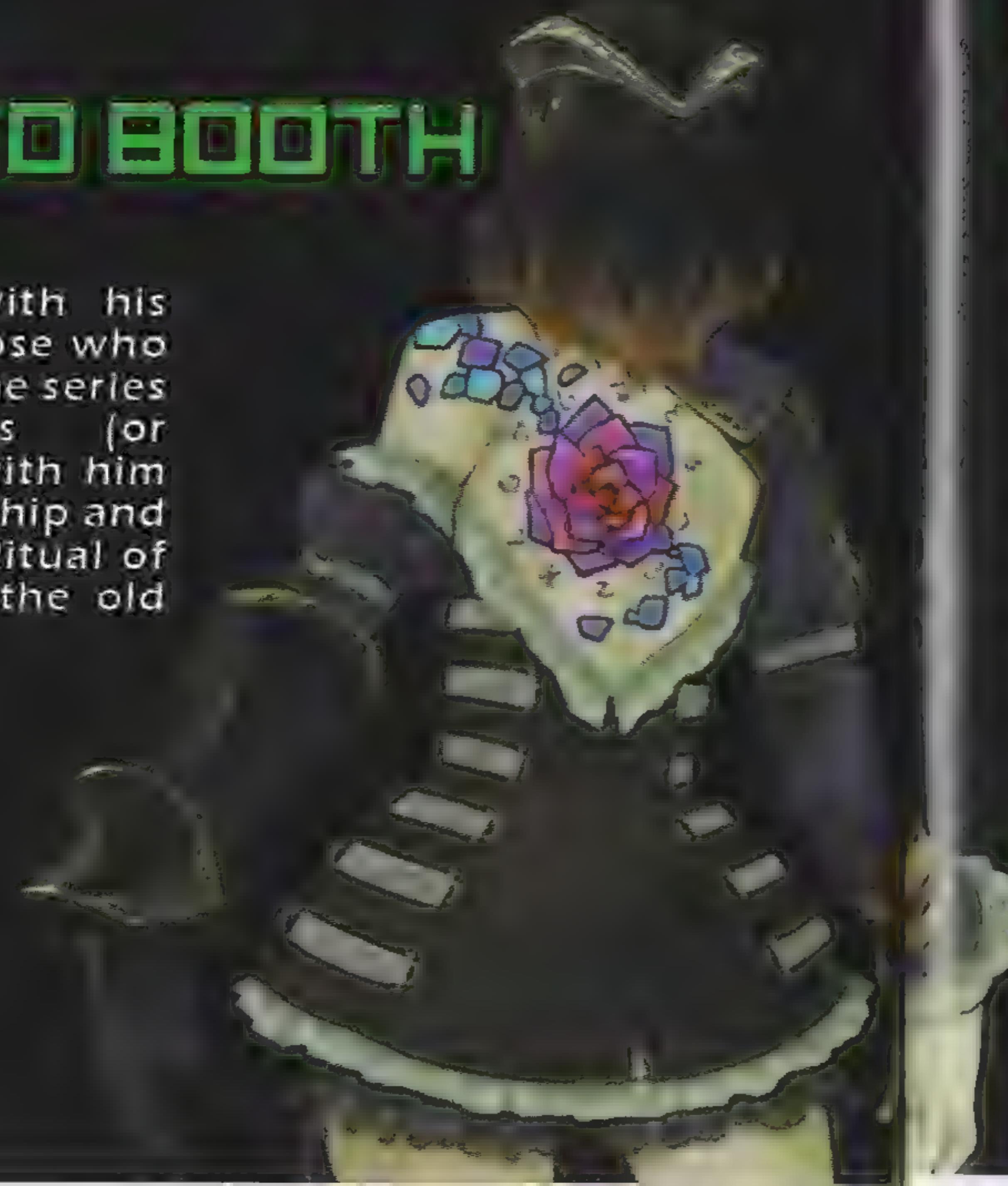
This year's ESGS got a lot bigger than it was compared to last year. More well-known gaming companies and indie game developers were there to showcase their upcoming games. Let's not forget the intense battles happening in the stage area where they showed live footage of the DotA 2, Counter Strike: Global Offensive, and Hearthstone matches. Aside from games, there were also booths selling everything you need from gaming peripherals, gunplas, printed shirts, and of course, food.

THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS TO COVER ABOUT ESGS 2016.
BUT HERE ARE THE NOTEWORTHY ONES:

IGARASHI KOJI @ BLOODSTAINED BOOTH

Igarashi Koji graced the summit with his presence for three whole days! For those who aren't familiar with him, Igarashi was the series producer of the Castlevania games (or Akumajou Dracula in Japan). Along with him are two replicas of the Vampire Killer whip and an E3 demo version of Bloodstained: Ritual of the Night, the spiritual successor of the old school Castlevania games.

Clearing the demo allows its playtesters to have a selfie with Igarashi wielding the Vampire Killer replicas plus an autograph if you have a copy of a Castlevania game with you.



PLAYSTATION BOOTH AND THEIR FREE PLAYS

Last year's PlayStation booth only had Call of Duty: Black Ops III. This year, two more games were added for a much better gaming experience @ ESGS 2016! NBA 2K17, Final Fantasy XV, and Call of Duty: Infinite Warfare were available to the public for a free play session. There was also a mini-game where you get cool prizes after playing at least two games in the booth and answered a survey about your time in the PS booth.

Personally, the most satisfying free play among the three games was the Infinite Warfare one, as it puts a team of 6 in an exhilarating team deathmatch in SPACE. My only problem with Infinite Warfare was that you can no longer stab players with a combat knife.

...and now my in-game mass murderer instincts are showing. Moving on.



NAMCO BANDAI GAMES

You know what's better than knowing that Namco Bandai was also one of the exhibitors for ESGS? Playing their upcoming games for free! The Namco Bandai booth never ran out of people trying out their free demo of Sword Art Online: Hollow Realization, Little Nightmares (formerly titled as "Hunger"), and Tekken 7. They also gave free SAO: Ordinal Scale posters and Tekken 7 wristbands for clearing the raid battle demo and participating in a best-of-3 matches with other Tekken players.

Seeing my Asuka getting destroyed by other Tekken players was definitely not a good memory to relieve, but hey, more free stuff!



VAINGLORY

People were skeptical about creating a MOBA game for mobile devices. Somehow, Super Evil Megacorp (yes, this is the name of the developer) managed to make it possible with Vainglory as their proof. The game is a simplified version of the MOBA genre in which two opposing teams of three fight in a linear path to destroy the enemy base. In addition, the "jungle area" has certain control points that can be contested for extra resources.

Most of the people who never heard of Vainglory were surprised when they found out it's a mobile game. Looking at it on the big screen back in ESGS, the graphics was so beautiful that it can pass as a PC game.

THE LETTER

We've also tried out most of the indie games available in the summit. Most of them are fun to play thanks to the unique and innovative gameplay mechanics our indie game developers used for their games, as well as the graphics quality that are very pleasing to the eyes. Some are amusingly weird like Tsip Bato. However, there was one indie game that stood out among them.

The Letter is a horror visual novel developed by Yangyang Mobile for Windows, Mac, and Linux. The game is fully-voiced, has animated CG, and quick-time events that will put you at the edge of your seat. It has a kickstarter page with over 500 backers and surpassed their \$30,000 pledge quota. The Letter is also greenlit by the Steam community, meaning that it may be put into one of Steam's list of available PC games to purchase in the near future.

Just like Nightfall, The Letter needs all the support we can give to make it a successful Filipino-made game.

UBISOFT PH

This year's ESGS marks the second year Ubisoft appears as one of its exhibitors. The Just Dance 2017 free play was massive compared to last year, but the downside was that Watch Dogs 2 was not available for a free gameplay demo. Instead, they open a recruitment campaign for attendees who are interested in applying for Ubisoft as a part of their dev team.

For those who don't know, Ubisoft PH's main office is in Laguna and is now cooperating with De La Salle University to provide game developer-related courses for aspiring game creators, programmers, and designers.

And that's pretty much it. Next year, expect ESGS to become even bigger with more high profile game companies, free plays, and competitive tournaments prepared. Hope to see you next ESGS, dear Otafans!~



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OTAKU LIFE HACKS

RECOMMENDED WIG BRANDS~



Lucaille

One of the first brands of wig that became available here in the Philippines. I would recommend their short/medium wigs because its thick plus easy to style and manage. There are times that their wigs will be needed to be trimmed especially in the bangs part. Their wigs are a bit pricey but the quality is superb. Their wigs have tags in the base part so you would know if the wig that you bought is really from Lucaille. There are also instances that the wig comes with free accessories.

Ghost Cos

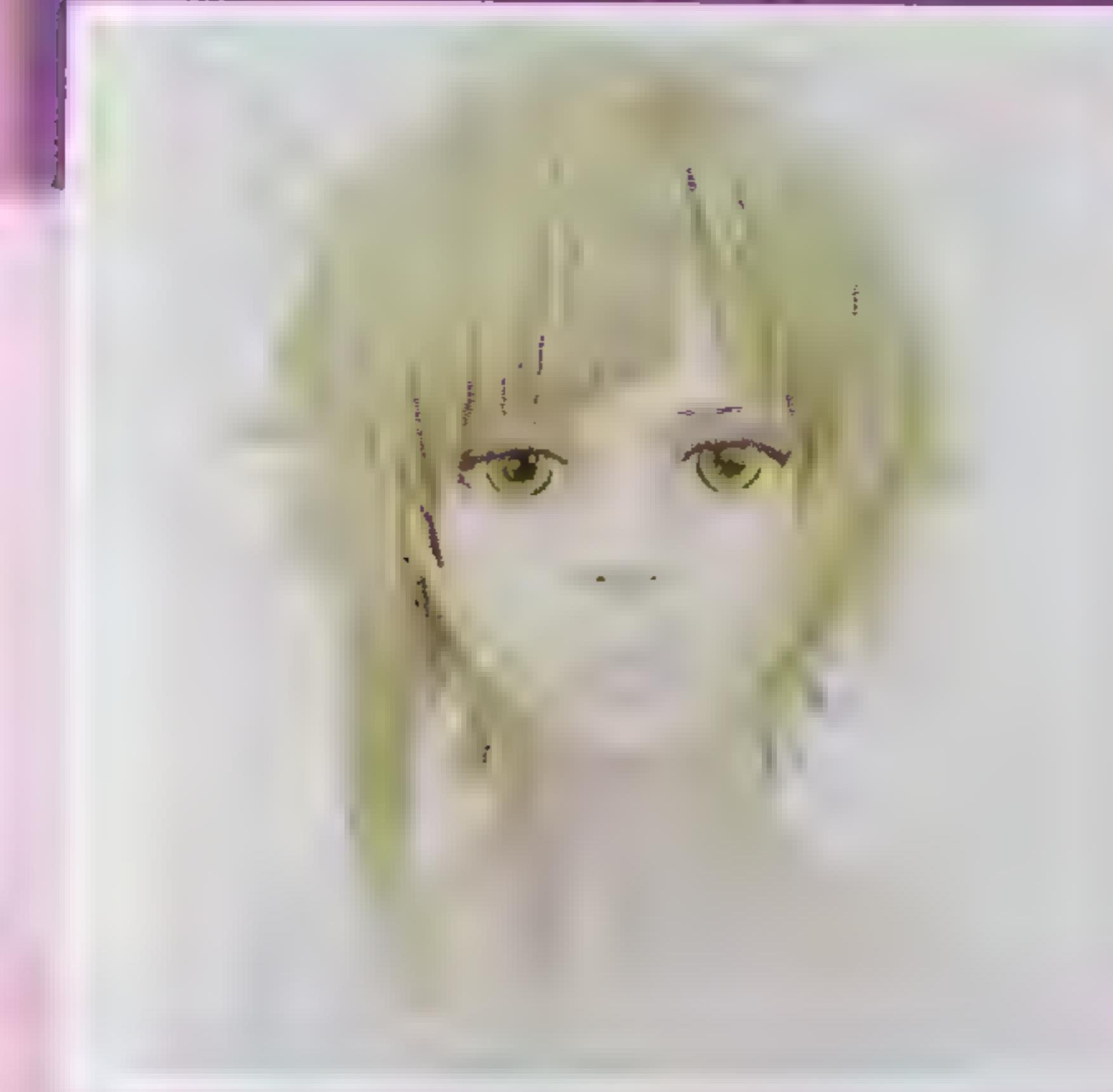
If you're looking for an affordable wig but has a good quality then Ghost cos is the right wig brand for you. Their wigs are not that thick but its manageable plus it's easy to style. Some of their wigs are not yet trimmed similar to the product picture available online so it needs a bit trimming especially on the bangs part. They also sell hair accessories for certain wigs in an affordable price.



M-Coser

Another cheap wig brand that I can recommend if your are looking for short-medium length wigs. It is also easy to style and manage. The styles and colors that they have are limited; most of them are the general hirstyles that can be seen in anime, game and manga characters.

I wouldn't recommend their long wigs since its hard to manage; it gets tangled easily, hard to fix plus the ends gets frizzy even if you use wig hairbrush.



Kucos

If you're looking for a wig that's already styled then Kucos is the perfect brand for you~ You get what's actually on the product image. No trimming required unless the wig is big for you. The wig is really soft, quite thick and easy to manage and style. Their wigs look a bit shiny in actual and don't use flash since it will really look shiny on the picture. Their wigs are not that expensive so it's also a good buy wig.

L-Email

L-Email wig



Their wigs are also cheap. So far, I like their male wigs since its really thick, soft and easy to manage. Their wigs are shiny so if you don't like shiny wigs then this is not the right wig for you. Their wigs also needs a bit trimming since the bangs part are longer than the product image.

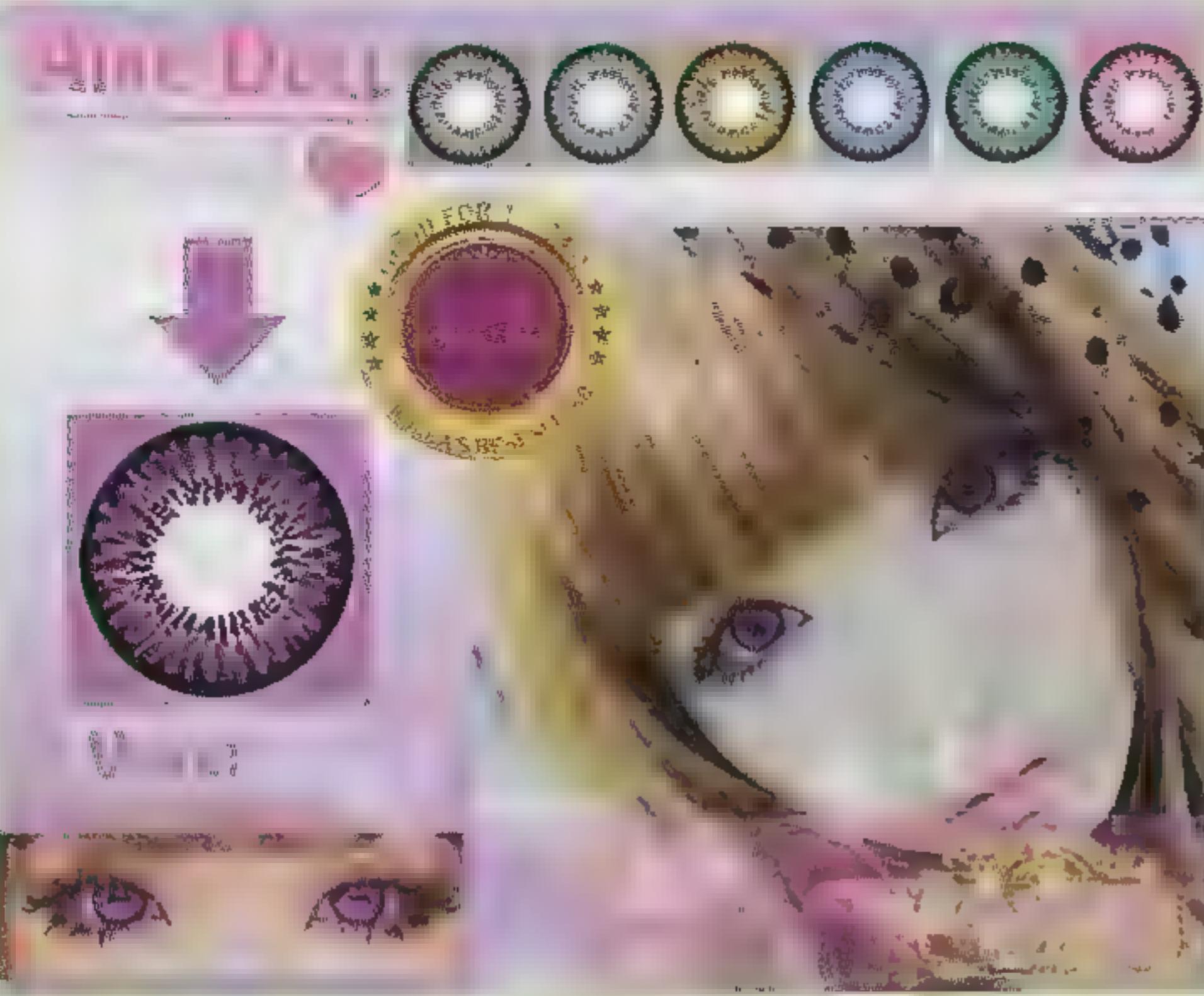
Please do take note that the wig head used in their wigs is small so it may look different depending on the head size of each person.



Ruler

One of the things that caught my attention with this wig is placed in a box unlike with the other brands that comes either in resealable plastic bag/ with cardboard on the sides. The quality of the wig is somehow the same with grandyyoung (sadly, that brand does not exist anymore). As you can see in the picture, some of their wigs need trimming and styling. Overall, its also a good buy wig.

RECOMMENDED CONTACT LENS BRANDS~



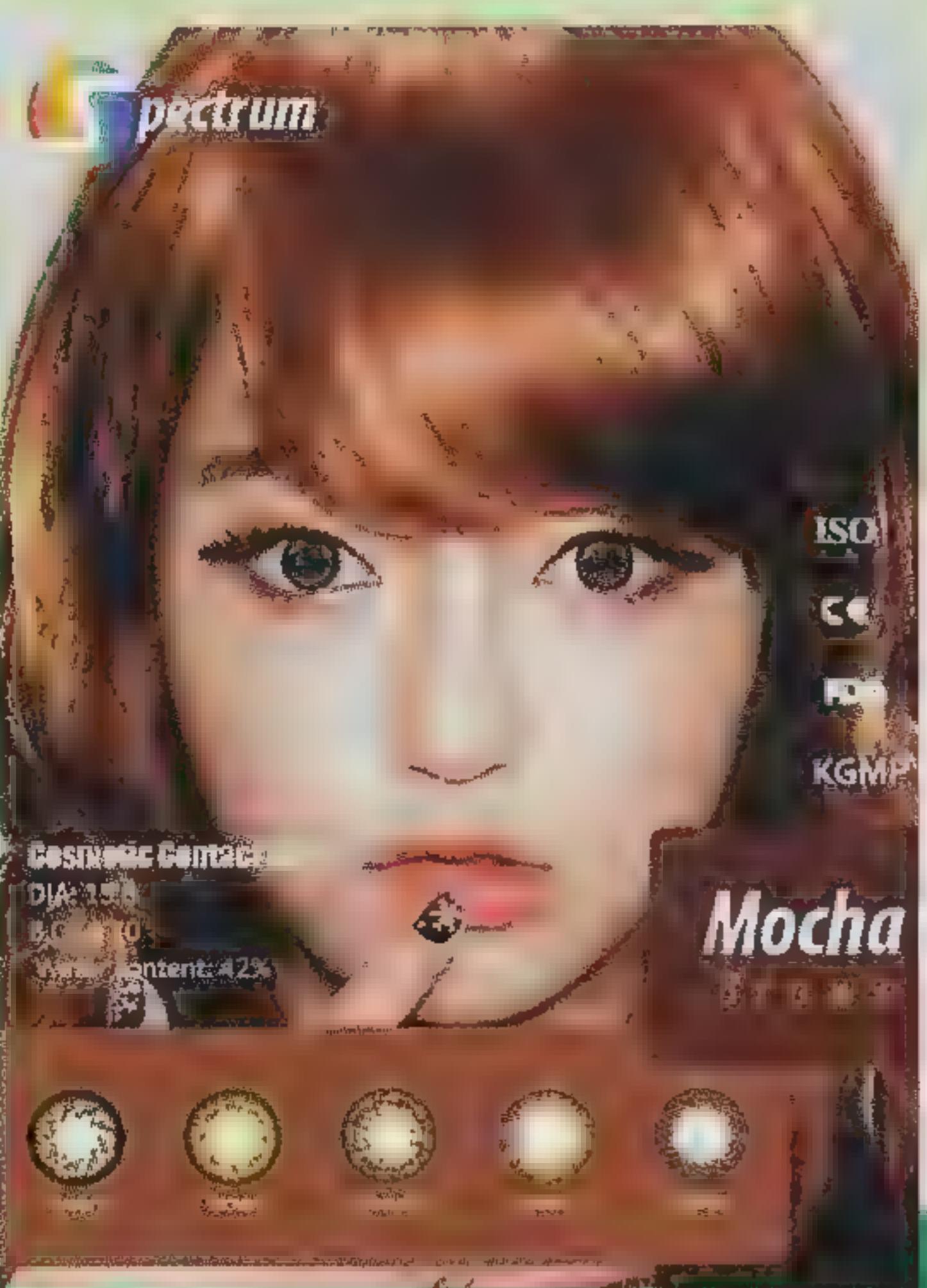
Elite

One of my favorite brand of lens. It comes in various designs plus they have doll lenses (16mm with 19mm effect). The lens were soft and visible when worn. The visibility of lens may vary depending on your eye color. There are times that you'll forget that you're wearing lens since its a soft lens and too comfortable to eyes to the point that you won't feel that your wearing one. This brand is also available during conventions.



Vanilla Eyes

I really love their animation lens because it's really vivid even if your far away and also during the night. Their lens also were comfortable to the eyes. You can see a little bit of the color of the lens you're wearing with other brands but with elite, you will be able to see clearly. As far as I know, this brand is only available at online shops only and not during conventions.



Spectrum

Spectrum lens are also vivid and they have 15mm colored lens like red since red lens always fall on animation lens category and animation lens is only 14mm. When worn, you'll see at first the color of the lens you're wearing on the sides of your vision but after a few minutes, it will disappear. It's also comfortable when wearing and my eyes never got irritated with this lens. This lens is available at online shops and sometimes it's available during conventions.

原宿风暴
RED



Eyemi

A newly discovered brand of the contact lens by the cosplayers which is also a good brand. Its also vivid plus it also has numerous designs to choose from. The lens comes with a free special contact lens case kit. Aside from that, this brand also has it's own contact solution and lens moisturizer.



Crystal

One of the early contact lens brand used by the cosplayers. This brand is available during conventions and in online shops. When worn, the lens is not that vivid compared to the sample picture; the color is a bit darker. The lens are soft and really comfortable to the eyes. Their animation lens is also good and par with the other animation lens brand.



EOS (Eyes of Seduction)

Also one of early contact lens brand used by the cosplayers and known for lens that is vivid. A little bit expensive but you get what you paid for: the vividness of the lens when worn plus its comfortable when worn. Similar with Vanilla Eyes' animation lens, It's also visible even if you're far away and even in low light areas. This lens is always available in online shops and during conventions.

学びます

The last lesson covered the particles "WA は" and "DESU です" while also learning A wa B desu. So by now you should know how to use the following:

Hiragana	Romanji	Class	English
は	wa	particle	
です	desu	copula	is/am/are
わたし	watashi	pron.	I/me

Now we will explain incomplete sentences, "NO の" and "KA か".

INCOMPLETE SENTENCES

Thanks to anime, we should be familiar with sentences where the topic is implied.

(It) is (a) book
ほんです
hon desu

There really isn't a Japanese for "it" but the topic is usually omitted if it is clear from context. Like when answering questions or when pointing to something.

NO の
This particle could be used as a possessive particle and also to turn a noun into a modifier.



Yamaguchi's bag
やまぐちのかばん
Yamaguchi no kaban

... matches with Tsukiyama's bag... ahem

わたしの	watashi no	my
あなたの	anata no	your
わたしたちの	watashi-tachi no	our

-tachi たち is a plural suffix that can be attached to any noun or pronoun to make a quasi-plural. Say, inu-tachi いぬたち will mean a specific set of dogs but will not mean dogs in general.

Yamaguchi's bag is green.
やまぐちのかばんはみどりです。
Yamaguchi no kaban wa midori desu.

Mine is red.
わたしのはあかです。
Watashi no wa aka desu.

No の as a general modifier can work like the English preposition "of"

a Japanese teacher
(teacher of Japanese)
にほんごのせんせい
Nihongo no sensei

a magical book
まほうのほん
mahou no hon

Mahou (noun: magic) becomes an adjective but the translation may vary from "book of magic" (book with spells) or "a magical book" (book itself is magical). Though No の can work as "of", it is versatile and can work as other prepositions:

a Japanese car
(car from Japan)
にほんのくるま
Nihon no kuruma

a bus ticket
(ticket for the bus)
ばすのきっぷ
basu no kippu

KA か

Now we will learn asking questions. Again, before this lesson you have to understand A は B です first (Otaku Asia Issue 32).

Before we ask, we must know how to answer. Basic answers would be yes and no:

Yes, it is
はい そです
Hai, so desu

No, it isn't
いいえ ちがいます
Iie, chigaimasu

In Japanese we only need to add the question marker, Ka か which is pronounced with a rising intonation like in any question.

You are Japanese
あなたはにほんじんです。
Anata wa Nihon-jin desu.

Are you Japanese?
あなたはにほんじんですか。
Anata wa Nihon-jin desu ka

Then we can answer with:

Yes, (I am) Japanese.
はい、にほんじんです。
Hai, Nihon-jin desu.

No, (I am) not Japanese.
いいえ、にほんじんじゃありません。
Iie, Nihon-jin ja arimasen.

There are negative forms of desu to be used if the statement becomes negative:

では ありません
じゃ ありません
de wa arimasen
ja arimasen

If you made it here, congratulations but we still have to go back and learn demonstratives... which I forgot to add.

これ	kore	this	near the speaker
それ	sore	that	near the listener
あれ	are	that	far from both
どれ	dore	which	unknown

"What" in Nihongo is either *nani* or *nan*. Use *nan* before *desu* and *nani* anywhere else.

What is this?
これはなんですか。
Kore wa nan desu ka

I also should tell you that we don't use the question mark when there is already *ka* か because it already acts as the question marker.

(What is) your name?
おなまえはなんですか。
onamae wa nan desu ka

What is your favorite anime?
すきなアニメはなんですか。
Suki na anime wa nan desu ka

Other question words are listed however, this is where my lesson ends. As always, practice on your own!

Hiragana	Romanji	English
なに・なん	nani/nan	what
だれ	dare	who
どれ	dore	which one
どの	dono	which (modifier)
どこ	doko	where
どちら	dochira	which direction
どのぐらい	donogurai	how long
どう	dou	how
どうして	doushite	how/why
なんで	nande	how/why
いつ	itsu	when
いくつ	ikutsu	how many
いくら	ikura	how much

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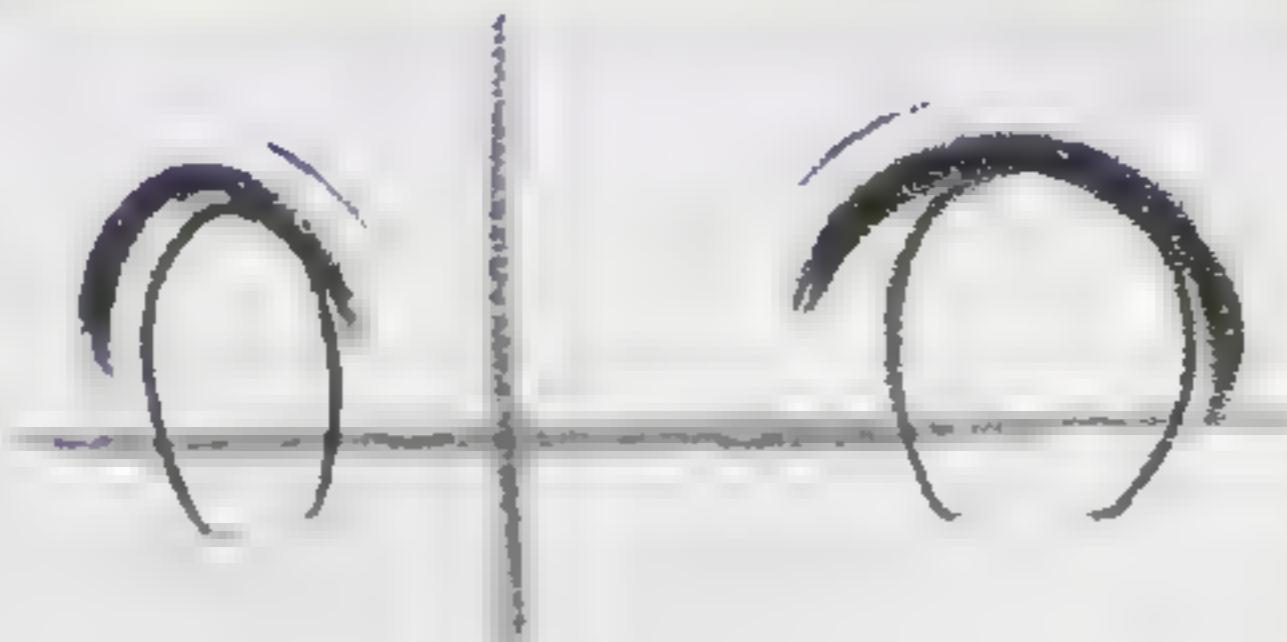


HOW TO DRAW ANIME EYES

Eyes are probably the most important symbolic sensory organ. One can easily tell the emotions of the characters through their eyes. So in this tutorial, I'll teach you how to draw "moe eye style" and "Tsundere" type eye style which is very commonly used in every anime we watch nowadays.



I always use guidelines so I know which area to draw and to attain an accurate position for the eye.



Draw a roundish type eyes which most MOE characters have.



Erase the guidelines then add details like depth, pupils and eyelashes.



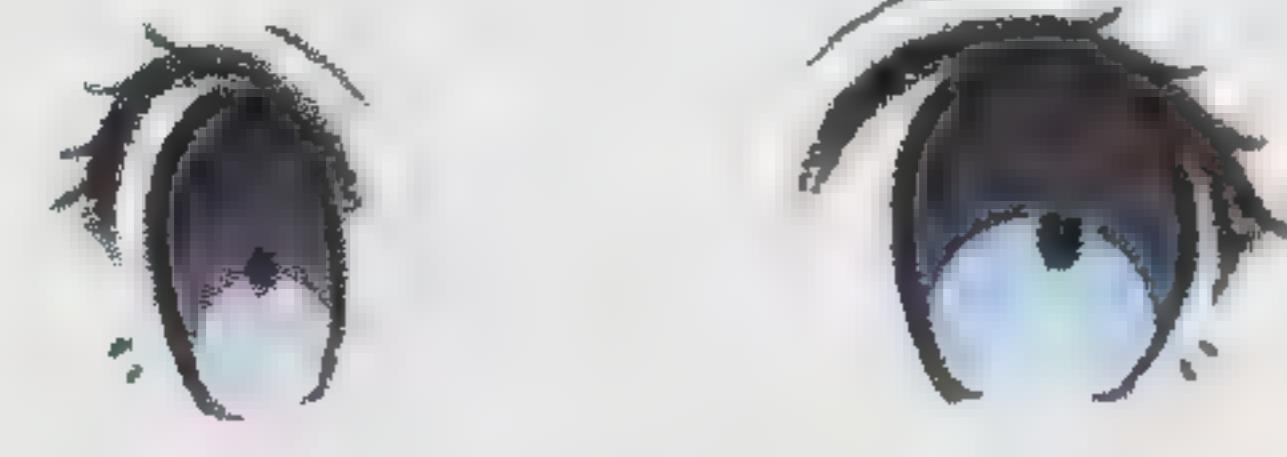
Add your desired base color. In this tutorial, I'll make a blue eyes so I will use a dark navy blue as base color.



On the same layer as base color, use airbrush then spray color black on the upper part.



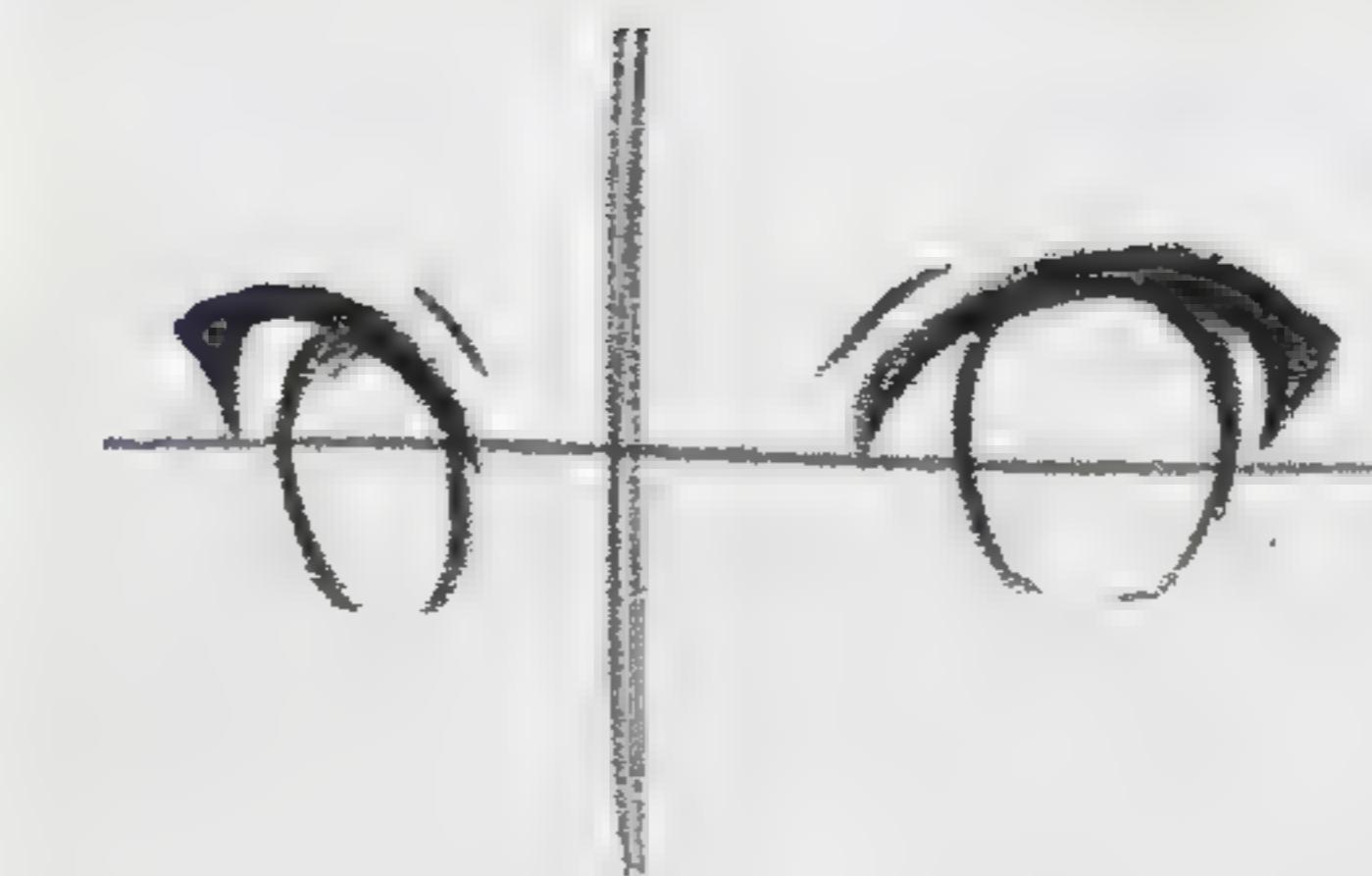
Clip a new layer on the base then draw a lighter shade of your base color.



To have a glowing effect, add another layer on "glow mode" and use airbrush and spray on the middle part downwards.



Add the highlights! And now we are done! :)



Draw guidelines as always. But this time draw the thick eyelashes in a distinct sharp point.



Add details, we draw it roundish type also to show her soft and cute inner side.



I'll use dark magenta as base. We'll make a red eyes this time.



Use airbrush to darken the upper part.



Draw light red underneath.



Add glow and highlights! :)

OTHER EYE TYPE SAMPLES:





Korokke

by Kanddy

Croquette is different in every country and in Japan, it is a mashed potato mix covered in panko (dried bread crumbs) and deep fried. It's a versatile food since you can use ground pork, beef, chicken, crab, etc and vegetables. In Kill la Kill, they used any ingredient they can have. Today I will show our version but you can add what you want.



Directions

You may use one large or two small potatoes. Peel, dice, boil and mash. This step is easy enough, right? Cover with cellophane to keep warm.

Heat oil in a pan over medium heat. Cook the onions until they are a bit translucent. Then you can add your meat protein and vegetables. Here we chose ground pork, corn and carrots. You can add your own: bacon, minced crab sticks, etc.

Season with a little salt, pepper, sugar and soy sauce according to your preferences. Fry until the meat is cooked.

After this are two different ways to add the potatoes and is good either way. Try the one that will work for you.



Ingredients

1 large potato
1/2 lb of ground pork
1/4 cup of chopped onions
salt and pepper to taste

Flour
Beaten egg
Panko
Vegetable oil for frying

optional:

1 canned corn
1 diced carrot
1/2 tbsp of minced garlic
1 tbsp of soy sauce



Version 1

Add the mashed potatoes in the pan. Turn the heat down and mix the ingredients all together. Fry until the potatoes have become dry.

Let cool completely and transfer to a storage dish. Cover with cellophane paper and leave overnight in the refrigerator to allow taste to permeate the potatoes. This is an important point as not only it will enhance the taste but make the croquettes easier to shape.

Smear a bit of cooking oil to your palms and shape the croquette to your desired size.

Make a breading station~ Coat your korokke with flour, dip in beaten eggs. Be generous with the egg and add eggs if needed. You can also use an egg dip made of beaten egg, milk and flour.

Then coat with panko. Panko is available in supermarkets. If none, use breadcrumbs. No, they are not the same. Panko is made from bread flakes rather than crumbs and has a better crunch when fried.

Fry to desired color... which is golden brown.

Don't worry about the inside since everything is already cooked.

Serve hot. This can be eaten on its own or with bechamel sauce or tonkotsu sauce! As an additional, we can make a tonkotsu sauce too:

1 cup tomato ketchup
1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
1 head garlic (crushed)
2 tsp sugar
1/4 tsp pepper
1/4 cup water
Combine, cover and simmer for 5 minutes stirring occasionally. This makes 1 cup of sauce.

Super yummy and warm to the tummy! Send us your recipe requests over at our FB page, Otaku Asia or our email, otakuasiaanimemag@gmail.com

Version 2

Take the mixture out of the pan and into a mixing bowl. Add the mashed potatoes and mix.

When it's cool enough to hold, mold to your desired shape.



I'll put plastic wrap on it

No PANKO? No problem.

Let us help you make Panko bread at home! Panko has no taste so please use mild-flavored white bread. "White panko," made from crustless bread, is the most popular kind. You can leave the crusts on to make "tan panko" instead.

1. Dry the bread by leaving it on the counter for a day (or two). Use a food cover that is mesh or has holes for air. You can also toast the bread at a low temperature without it browning.

2. Shred into flakes. The defining difference between panko and ordinary bread crumbs is panko's large, flaky texture. You can use a food processor, blender or a grater. Don't make it fine only coarse.

3. Spread the crumbs into a baking sheet and dry in an oven for four minutes 150°C. Shake the crumbs around then bake for another 3-4 minutes. Make sure the crumbs don't turn brown.

Store the crumbs in airtight containers. This will last for six months if stored in a freezer and a week if stored at room temperature.

You can use this for tempura, breaded chicken and of course korokke!! Fry all the things!!

Ahem. Enjoy and eat well!

Have you ever been in a situation where you try to act as "normal" as you can and hide your personality that you don't want other people to know because you fear you might get discriminated? Sadly, it's normal that you feel that way. However, remember that true friends and family will accept for who you are so don't be ashamed!



by: Yani

Our story revolves around Kae Serinuma who is an otaku and a fujoshi; a person who ships two male characters either in anime, manga or game. When her favourite character, Shion from the anime *Mirage Saga*, died she became depressed and did not come out of her room for a week. Her family was concerned so they forced her to come out of her room, only to find out that she lost weight and became attractive. Even her classmates were surprised of her change and suddenly she has attracted suitors! Her schoolmates-now-suitors named Yuusuke Igarashi, Nozomu Nanashima, Hayato Shinomiya and Asuma Mutsumi. They suddenly ask her out on a movie date and after having an argument which one who should go with her, it was decided that all of them will go to the movie together.

This was a new thing for Serinuma so she was really nervous, hiding her otaku personality during the date and acting as a normal girl would. By the end of the date, Serinuma cannot conceal her otaku self and bravely confessed to the guys that she's an otaku. Surprisingly, the suitors still accepted her since she smiles the brightest when she's herself. Who among the suitors will win her heart or in Serinuma's mind, "more moments that can fuel my fujoshi side~"



Kiss Him, Not Me! is a Japanese romantic comedy manga series written and illustrated by Junji Ito and published by Kadokawa in the year 2013. The first volume was released last October 2014 by Break's Choice. It was one of the Best Girl Manga during the 30th Kodansha Manga Awards.

CHARACTERS:



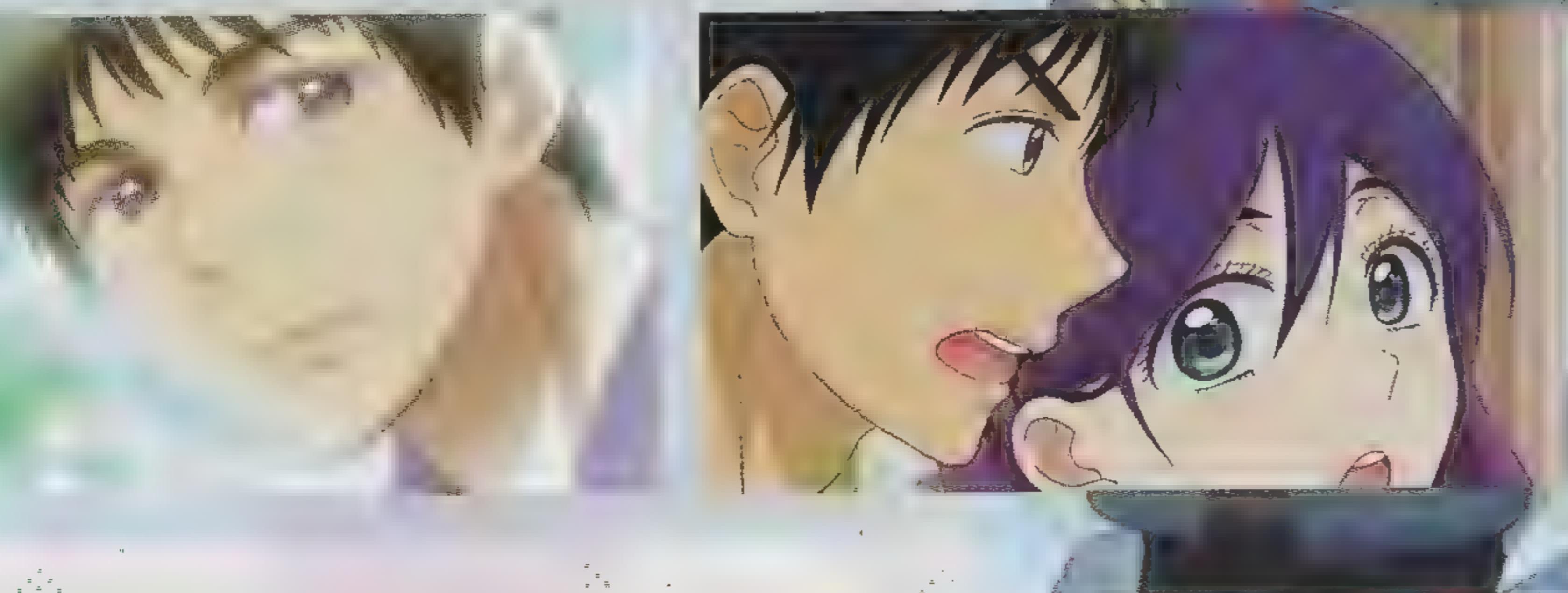
Kae Serinuma CV: Yuu Kobayashi

Kae is a second year highschool girl who is an otaku and a fujoshi. She is a member of History Club at their school together with Asuma. She's not used to getting all the boys attention and prefers watching them from afar imagining all sorts of BL scenes.



Yuusuke Igarashi CV: Yuuki Ono

Igarashi is also a second year student and goes to the same class with Serinuma. He is the most competitive in Kae's suitors. He's also a member of the soccer club and often described as "the boy next door" type. He likes Kae not only for her new appearance but also because of her tenacity.



Nozumu Nanashima CV: Keisuke Komoto

Nanashima also have the same class with Serinuma. He's categorized as the "bad boy tsundere" type of guy. He resembles Serinuma's favourite anime character: Shion from the series *Mirage Saga*. He struggled at first because of this but later on, he saw this as an advantage to win Serinuma's affection.



Hayato Shinomiya CV: Yoshitsugu Matsuoka

Hayato is a first year student who is a member of the nursing committee. He suddenly had a crush to Serinuma after losing her weight. He has a bishounen appearance and is a tsundere. He is often mistaken as a girl whenever he dresses a girl. Because of this, Serinuma does not see him as a man which frustrates him. He wants Serinuma to see his manly side.





Auma Mutsumi

CV: Nobunaga Shimazaki

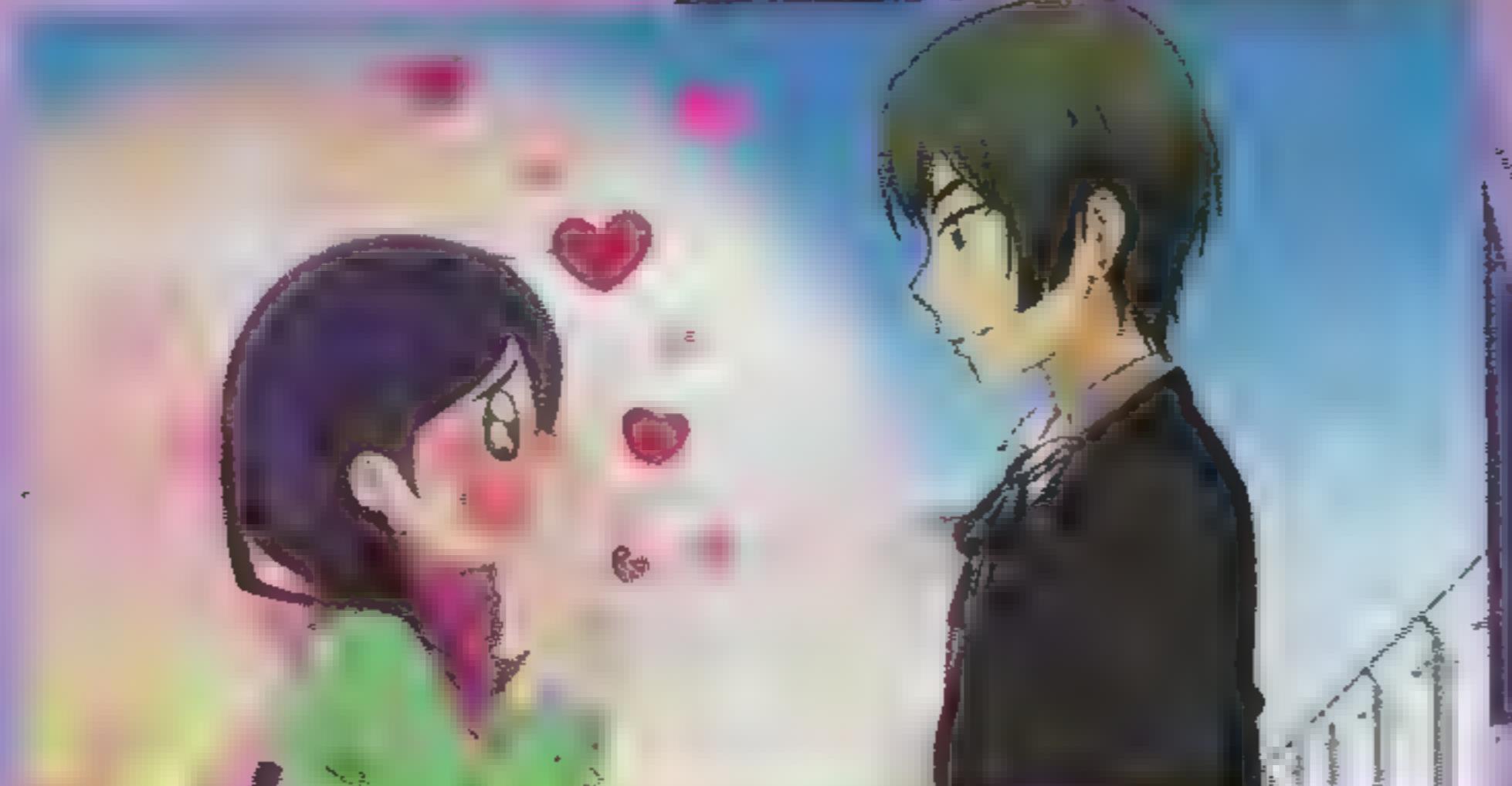
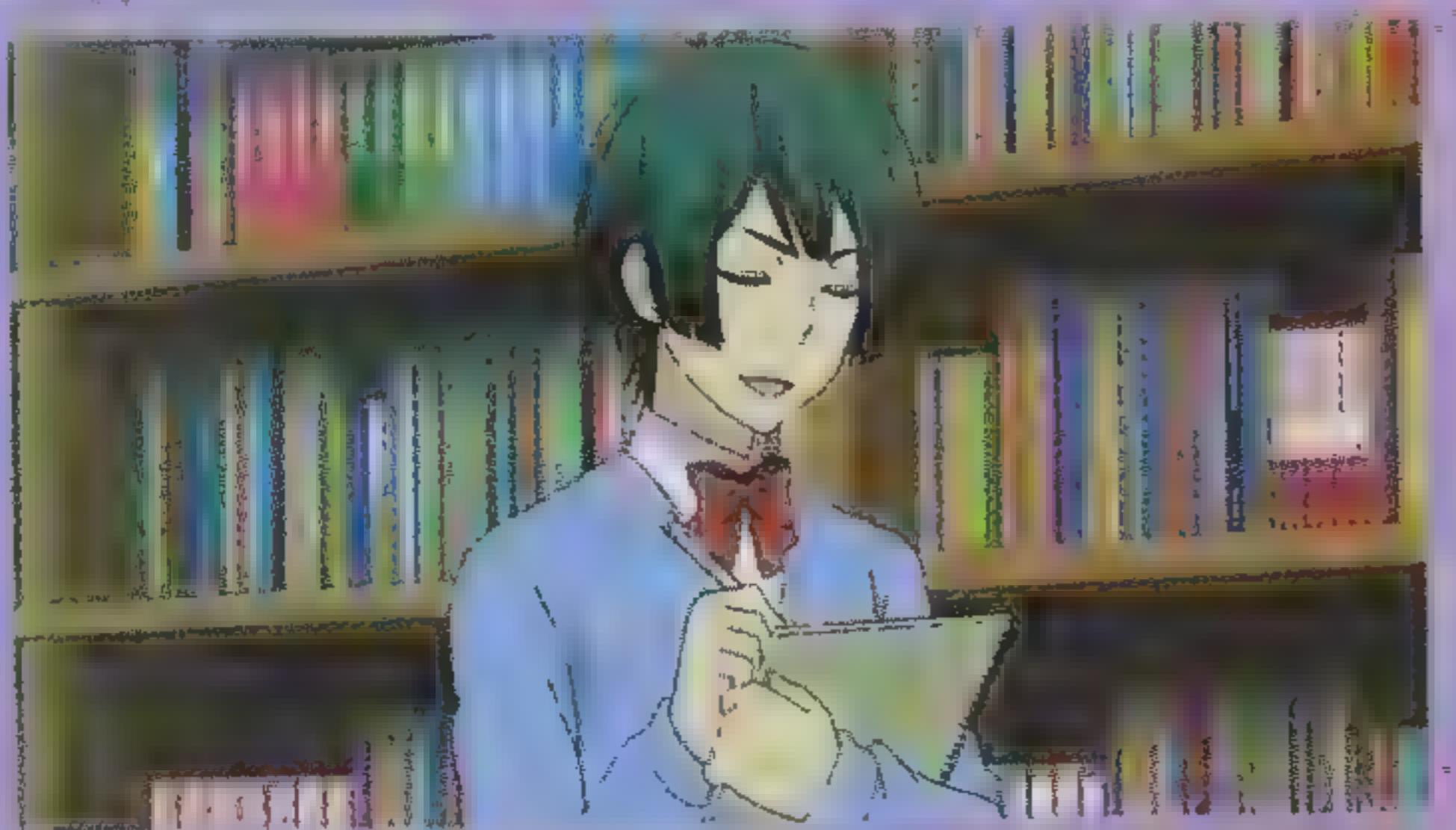
Auma is also a member of the history club together with Serinuma and a year older than her. He is usually calm the least forceful among the suitors of Serinuma and a very open minded person. He is one of the people who accepted Serinuma when she was still chubby.



Shima Nishina

CV: Miyuki Sawashiro

Shima is a first year student who is also an otaku like Serinuma. She is very talented and skilled with different things. She is also has a doujin circle who Serinuma follows. She greatly admires Serinuma because she sees her talents and skills and not because she came from the known and rich family.



We cannot regret that there are indeed a great number of fujoshi here in the Philippines and I believe that every fujoshi out there can relate to this anime and will love it. It's a really great thing that manga series about otakus are being adapted into anime lately. Kiss Him not Me has a great story plot that will make you laugh and get in love with them at the same time. All of the suitors accepted the fact that she is an otaku plus they join her in her fandom activities like going to conventions and helping her whenever she needs assistance. Unleash your Fujoshi feels together Serinuma as we watch her story together with her suitors.



CHARACTER BIO

by: lizac 3.0

Ushijima Wakatoshi

Series: Haikyuu!!
CV: Takeuchi Ryouta
Team: Shiratorizawa Academy
Birthday: August 13
Age: 18 years old
Title: Super Ace

Positions: Wing Spiker, Ace, Captain of Shiratorizawa's volleyball team

Likes: Hayashi rice

Ushijima Wakatoshi is the captain of Shiratorizawa's volleyball team and the number one ace in Miyagi Prefecture. All over Japan, he is one of best three aces. His hard-earned skills in volleyball are unmatched to rookies. It shows in the strongest lineups like Seijoh that he defeated alongside his team. Moreover, the fact that he is a left-handed spiker gives him the edge in a predominantly right-handed sport. A cross-spike from Ushijima always leaves the opponent slack-jawed.

He is first openly talked about by Karasuno in Haikyuu!! Season 2. In a magazine, he is shown to be wearing the uniform of Youth World with the label "Japan" on it, which means that he represents Japan under the 19 years old age group. Ushijima has an intimidating nature due to his large build and straightforwardness. This makes volleyball players from other teams dislike him automatically. Upon his first encounter with the freak duo Kageyama and Hinata, he has already shown his

resolute approach towards volleyball. He freely shares his opinion on how the weak players do not stand a chance against the strong ones, and it leaves a bitter taste in Karasuno duo's mouths.

His teammates, however, see him differently. Although he is the captain, they understand his unapproachable personality. He has a stoic facial expression most of the time, but Ushijima is in fact, self-aware and knows how to apologize if he offends someone. He also has unusual quirks such as reading advertisements on magazines without fail and looking like in deep thought when there is actually nothing in his mind.

Perhaps one of the most misunderstood characters in the Haikyuu!! realm, Ushijima Wakatoshi has started to show more of himself in Haikyuu!! Season 3. And his solid goal to be in the nationals only proves that he indeed, loves playing volleyball.

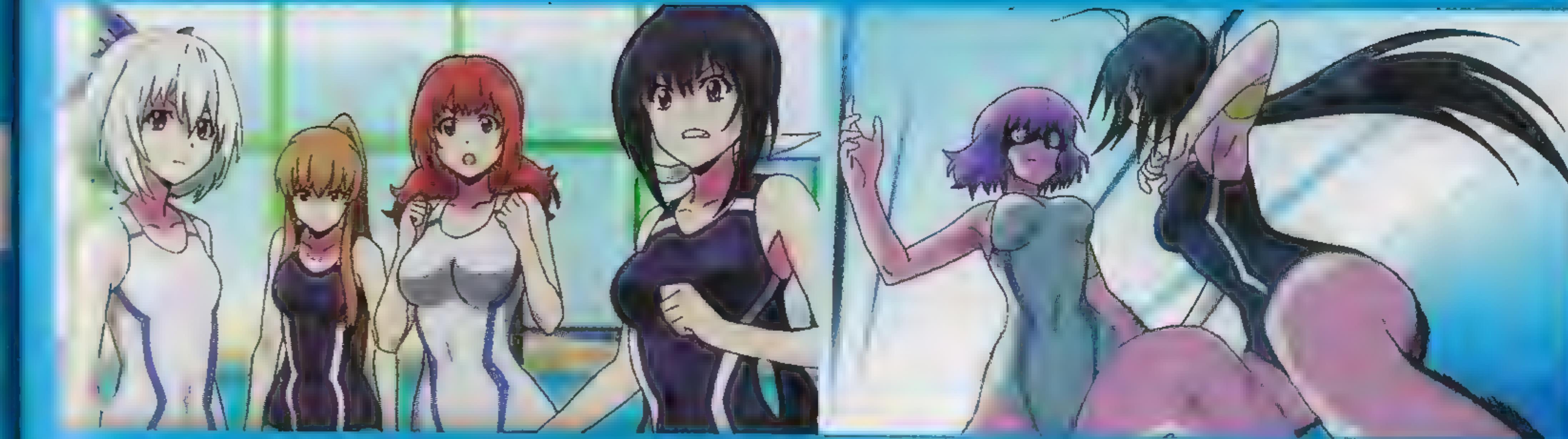


Contact Person: Miko Garcia Twitter: /TheSwOrdMaster
Facebook: /TheSwordMasters Contact # 0935 665 6760



HOT ANIME

by Ann



The ultimate battle to gain status in Keijo, a fighting club that pits bodies and brains, is about to start. Nozomi Kuroki is an ambitious woman who wants to be the best Keijo player in Japan. She is one of 11 girls performing on a platform over a crashing ocean. As the game intensifies, the issue of bodies and brains, only women are allowed to play. A fellow club becomes disabled in falls into the water, so it's a game that everyone looks forward to see who will be the last woman standing. Keijo is a popular Japanese sport. Nozomi chooses to train as a Keijo player to earn a higher pay and lift her family out of poverty, but can she rise up to the other girls' heights, including her friend?

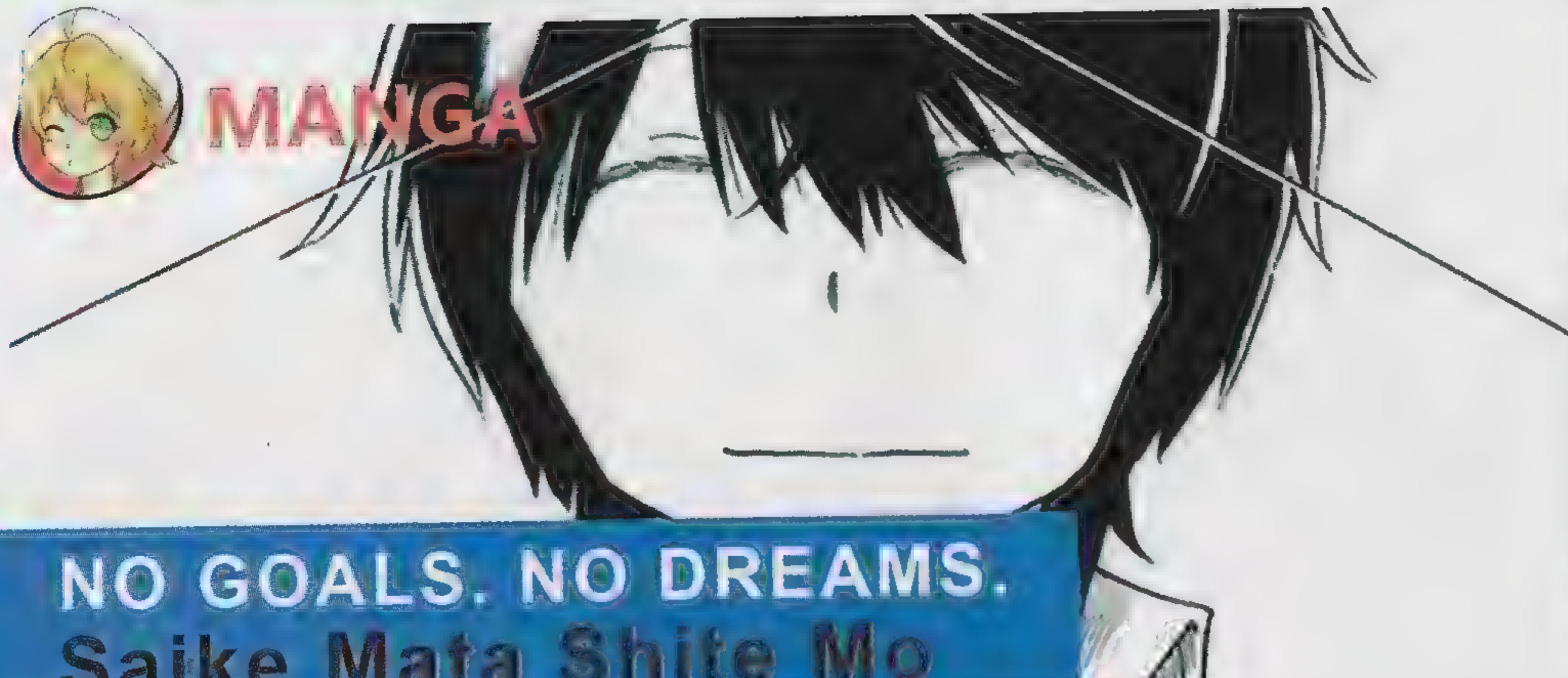
Based on the manga by Usaha Sorayomi published in Weekly Shonen Sunday magazine in 2013, Keijo!! is a 12-episode anime adaptation produced by Xebec and directed by Eiichi Takahashi with series composition by Takao Kato. The cast consists of Lynn (Nozomi Kuroki), Karde (Ranako Kazano), Saori (Otsuki) (Non), Megumi (Mao) (Kurumi Miyata), Rena (Mae) (Hanabi Kawai), Hibiku (Yamamoto) (Rei) (Kusumi), Rio (Takemoto) (Rin (Rokuden)) and Mabuki (Andou) (Nagisa Ujibe). The series was released in October.

First, the beauty of the sport itself makes people fall in love with it. It's another aspect that story consists. Women come with a solid goal built in the beginning as well as the supporting characters. The first thing that they believe and fight is how fast the spin needs to be. In the story, with a serious treatment of the sport, this focus is given on the characters. In this, the characters come with different strategies that involve the analysis of movement, speed, flexibility and force. Taking all these factors into consideration make it similar to other sports like boxing, judo and some more. The story also place to a school and also learn more about the importance of the sports and the strengths of each participant. Even Nozomi's motivation for pursuing Keijo is fine with the seriousness of the sport. The same can be said on the determination of characters such as Sayaka and Rin who both make Keijo and other sports to make them more competitive.

Another highlight of the plot is the ranking system that is selectively established on the basis of who gets farther in performing. This is when Nozomi must struggle to keep up with the other characters who were privileged enough to try Keijo even before they went to Keijo training school.

Keijo is a winter competition and while a combat having a lot with bodies and parts may at first seem unconvincing, it's quite convincing.



**MANGA**

NO GOALS. NO DREAMS. Saike Mata Shite Mo

No goals. No dreams. No plans. Nothing. Just a fleeting and directionless day-by-day existence. That's how some people are. But sooner or later, the spark that will reveal their life's purpose will come. And for Saike, that moment has finally arrived. So, what's his calling in life? It's a high one: a hero. Follow his awakening in *Saike Mata Shite Mo*.

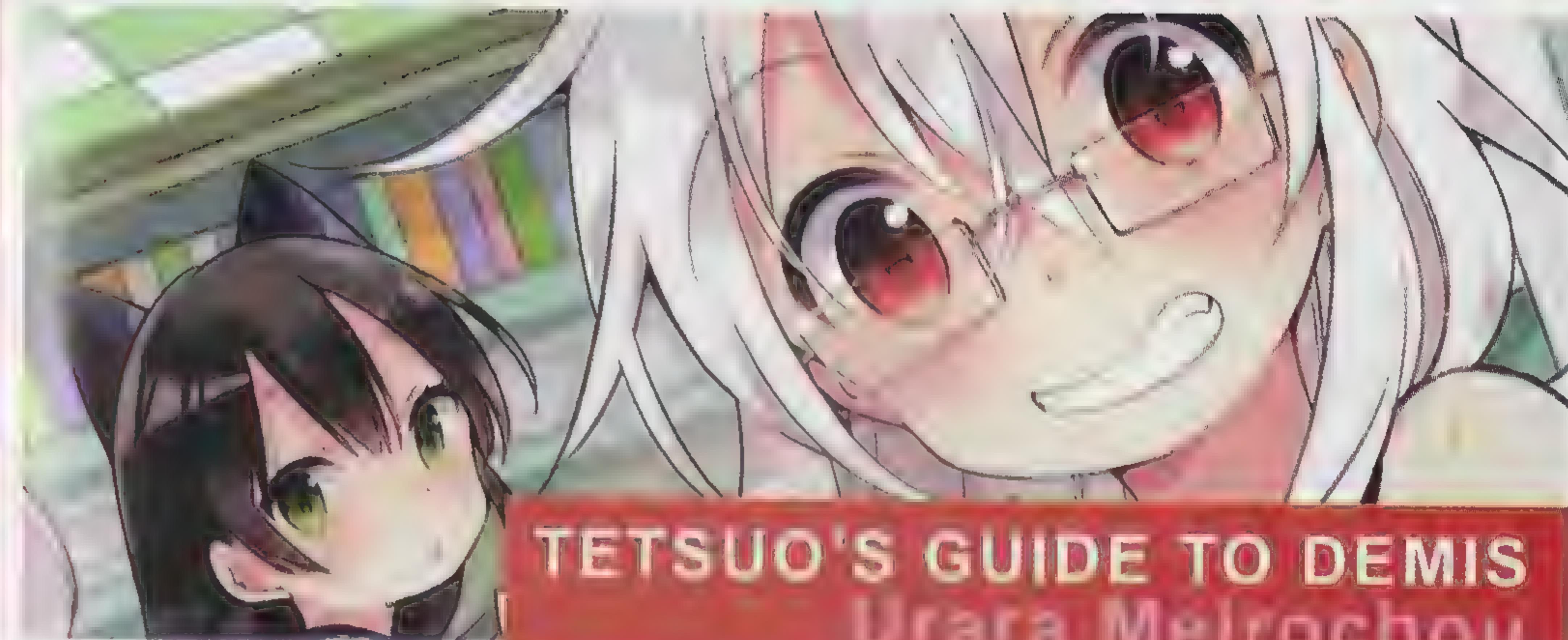
Roughly translated as *Saike Once Again*, this manga by Tsubasa Fukuchi is about the titular character, *Saike Kuzushiro*. He doesn't have any aspirations in life. But other than that flaw, if you consider it as such, then he's quite an okay guy. And on top of that, he's a good and true friend to *Mikan*, whom he's been friends with for so long now. But tragedy befalls the pair, as *Saike* is unable to save *Mikan* from a vehicular accident as they were crossing the street.

In *Saike*'s mind, he is the reason why he lost *Mikan* forever – or did he? Because in the morning after that fateful day, he has woken up to the same exact day of *Mikan*'s death. Seeing this as a God-given second chance to atone for his sins, he then finds a way to save *Mikan* – even if it means repeating the same sad events over and over again. But there's more to it than that, as it is through this desperate time – or the twisting of it – that he discovers what he is meant to be. And what might that be? Someone greater than you and I: a hero. Not only to *Mikan*, but to everyone.

REVIEW

Don't let the childlike art fool you: this manga is rife with serious moral issues and deep introspection. Still, it's a shounen manga, so expect superpowers, battles, inspiring speeches, and all other tropes that characterize the genre.

Saike Mata Shite Mo is a rare gem, but it's not for everyone, thanks to how slow the story is. But once you get past that, you'll see that it makes a deeper dig into its characters, story, and themes as compared to other shounen. And if that's your thing, then you'll love this one.



TETSUO'S GUIDE TO DEMIS Urara Meirochou

Metro-chou is a town where all-female diviners (*uranaishi*) live and where girls from all over the country yearn to become the top diviner – *Urara*. On her 15th birthday, a solitary girl named *Chiya* enters the town's gates. However, she has another purpose coming here, besides becoming the *Urara*. *Chiya*'s days as an apprentice diviner begin as she meets three friends – the earnest *Kon*, *Koume* who is a fan of Western culture, and the shy *Nono*.



REVIEW

There is no scans of the manga but knowing the author and artist, we could say that it might have slight yuri. *Harikamo*, creator of *Yorumori no Kuni no Sorani* and is also the artist of the mangas *Flag Breaker* is known for drawing cute girls and colorful illustrations.

Since the anime will be produced by J.C.Staff who has done *Prison School*, *Lostorage incited WIXOSS* and *Taboo-Tattoo* recently, we can expect... a tsundere who is flat and has a complex about it. This time voiced by *Sayaka Harada*. Other cast includes *Kaede Hondo* as *Kon*, *Yurika Kubo* as *Koume* and *Haruka Yoshimura* as *Nono*.

We look forward to this anime mostly because of the first visual. The characters look very pleasing and the plot of all-female future tellers is interesting to watch.

Since it's also a four-panel, it should be comedy... right?



MISERY LOVES COMPANY Kuzu no Honkai

Mugi Awaya and Hanabi Yasuraoka appears to be the perfect couple in the eyes of whole student body in their school. However, the public have no idea about the true nature of their relationship. Both of them harbor unrequited feelings towards someone else, and their way of coping up with loneliness is by using each other as substitutes. Will their physical relationship eventually transform into a pure and genuine romantic relationship?

Kuzu no Honkai (Scum's Wish) is an on-going romance manga created by Yokoyari Mengo. The series is currently serialized in Big Gangan Magazine since September 2012, and has a total of 42 chapters as of November 6, 2016. An anime adaptation by Lerche with Chika Anzai and Nobunaga Shimazaki as the main characters is scheduled to air on January 12, 2017.

REVIEW

Kuzu no Honkai portrays the twisted aspect of having an unrequited love towards someone. Two people are able to fend off their loneliness and overwhelming desire for their loved one by having a physical relationship that was devoid of love. But the biggest question the readers wanna know is: "how long can they keep it that way?" The first few chapters seems to be going well for the main couple, but as the series goes on, things started to get very complicated.

Aside from unrequited love, **Kuzu no Honkai** throws the moral aspects of romance out of the window as the NTR levels in this manga are off the charts! Even though there are times where the narrative shifts to one of the side characters, there is no chapter without seeing Mugi or Hanabi cheating on each other.

"But should that count as cheating when they don't really love each other?" I hear you asking.

Technically, it doesn't. At first, that is.

And last, but not the least, Yokoyari Mengo deserves a round of applause for delivering quality artstyle that perfectly fits the atmosphere of the story, and the characters are unforgettable even with the minimal effort in designing them.

Will you still give this a try no matter how unusual the plot of **Kuzu no Honkai** is?



TETSUO'S GUIDE TO DEMIS Demi-chan wa Kataritai



Since long ago, the "ajins" lived alongside humanity while being persecuted due to their potentially harmful nature. However, in the recent years, the ajins, now casually known as "emis", are finally accepted into human society with open arms. Tetsuo Takahashi decided to became a high school biology teacher because of his great interest in demis and the desire to know more about them. He initially thought that demis are extremely rare and might not be able to meet one in his lifetime. But to his surprise, he is able to meet four different kinds of demis in his new workplace.

Demi-chan wa Kataritai (Interviews with Monster Girls) is an on-going comedy manga created by Petosu. It was serialized in Young Magazine the 3rd on September 5, 2014 with a total of 24 chapters as of November 18, 2016. There will be an anime adaptation of the series by A-1 Pictures and is scheduled to air this coming Winter 2017.

REVIEW

As the title suggests, **Demi-chan wa Kataritai** is centered around the demi-human class monsters that are allowed to blend in with the humans. The series follows Tetsuo Takahashi as he gradually understands more about the demis' lifestyle while helping them solve their problems. Seeing both Takahashi and the demis interact every chapters is one of the enjoyable aspects of the series. But despite the lighthearted gags and reaction panels, **Demi-chan wa Kataritai** tends to gets very serious sometimes.

All of the characters in this series are lovable due to their unique personalities. Seeing them interact with Takahashi makes them appear more human than we originally thought since almost all of them has a crush on our main guy. Takahashi, on the other hand, is simply focused on his desire to study more about demis that he is unaware of their feelings towards him.

Should you read this manga? Definitely!

Demi-chan wa Kataritai gets a recommendation rating of 7.5/10 for simply having a unique school-life comedy setting.



OUR ROYAL TUTOR Oushitsu Kyoushi Haine

Teaching is a noble and difficult calling. And the latter is especially truer if your students are a pain to deal with. But to some educators, however, take this hurdle as a challenge, and motivates them to work harder in imparting to their pupils not only knowledge, but also important life lessons. A good example of a teacher like this is Sir Haine Wittenstein. Follow his adventures in mentoring in Oushitsu Kyoushi Haine.

Drawn and written by Akai Higasa, Oushitsu Kyoushi Haine, the designated royal tutor of the princes that belong to Grants Reich Kingdom's royal family. There is Leonhardt fon Grants, who's dashing and charming but has a deep dislike for teachers; Licht fon Grants, a friendly but airheaded fellow; Bruce fon Grants, polite and overly serious; and Kai, who seems cold and snobbish but is actually a gentle. Teaching such a diverse quartet is without a doubt a difficult task, but Sir Haine Wittenstein, with his expertise and genuine concern for his students, his success is not a question of if, but how.

REVIEW

The manga is character-driven, as it is centered on the four princes while they're under Sir Haine's mentorship. Their personalities and their outlook towards education are explored, as well as their development not only as students, but also as princes and most importantly, as individuals later on. That, however, doesn't mean Sir Haine is merely a lead that propels the plot, as his struggles with and motivations for teaching will also be tackled, as well as his deepening bond to his students as both a tutor and a companion. And while the central theme definitely has considerable weight, it does contain good humor, making the manga fun without taking away its meaningfulness.

Oushitsu Kyoushi Haine, despite featuring the "bishounen brothers whose personalities greatly vary" trope, manages to be a lot more about character development and the value of education rather than fanservice. That, however, doesn't mean there's none of the latter, but it's not on levels that jack the plot. So if you want a manga that has good eye, mind, and heart candy, this is for you.



GK CONTEST 2018
Champions are Born

Champions
Serafin Germany

tomcat
Germany

dianahase
Germany

Champions
salva Spain

2nd Runner Up Ksana Russian Federation



GAMER'S ARENA

by Mikelle

SWORD ART ONLINE =Hollow Realization=



Release date: November 8, 2016

Developer: Aquria

Publisher: Bandai Namco Entertainment

Platform: Playstation 4, PlayStation Vita

Genre: RPG

Modes: Single and Multi Play

Sword Art Online Hollow Realization is a recently released role playing game from Reki Kawahara's world renowned series, *Sword Art Online*. *Hollow Realization* is the fourth game based on *SAO* following *Lost Song*. Published by Bandai Namco for the PS4 and PS Vita, the game was first released in Japan followed shortly by a world wide release.

Set three years after the events of the original *SAO* killing game, a restoration of Aincrad called Aincrad was redeveloped into a new VRMMO called *Sword Art: Origin* for research purposes. Kirito and his gang met an AI within the game called Premiere who started to accompany their party and explore the floors of Aincrad.



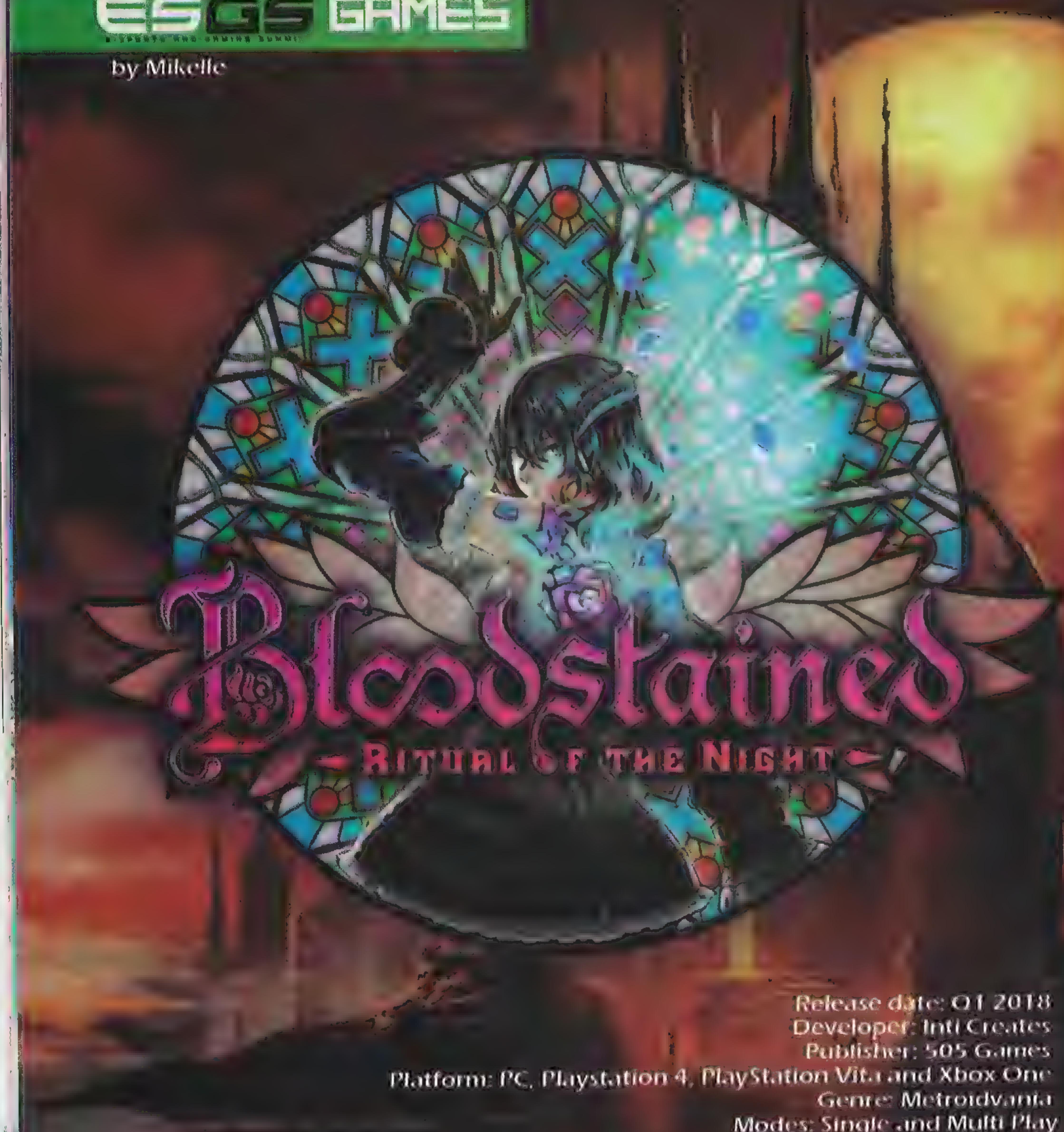
Unlike with *Infinity Moment*, *Hollow Fragment* and *Lost Song*, *Sword Art Online: Hollow Realization* is set on a new VRMMO game called *Sword Art: Origin* that uses servers based on the original *SAO* killing game used by Kayaba. Another difference from previous games is that *Hollow Fragment* is restricted to a two-man party, *Lost Song* enables a three-member party but now *Hollow Realization* features a four-man party including the player.



When players started the previous games, Kirito starts at quite a high level accompanied by deadly skills giving players the edge of being an OP character within the game right at the start. However now it's different, Yosuke Futami, the game's producer devised the idea that players must start afresh and so Kirito must crawl from the bottom as a level one character. Now players can experience the feeling of starting a newly released MMO from the base level.

Hollow Realization's gameplay is similar to *Hollow Fragment* as a RPG. The game also features more than 300 NPC within the game and every single one of them is made to be recruitable. Strengthening your bonds with them would also increase their strength in battle. The new four-man team now provides players a wider variety of gameplay and strategy.

Hollow Realization features approximately 40 hours of story length, however other factors such as grinding, sub quests and other mini or secret events will result to a total of over 100 hours of gameplay. The game's opening theme is *Windia* by Haruna Luna and the ending theme is *The Two of Us* by Tomatsu Haruka. Expansion packs and other downloadable contents are also available which provides a new PvP content and additional story.



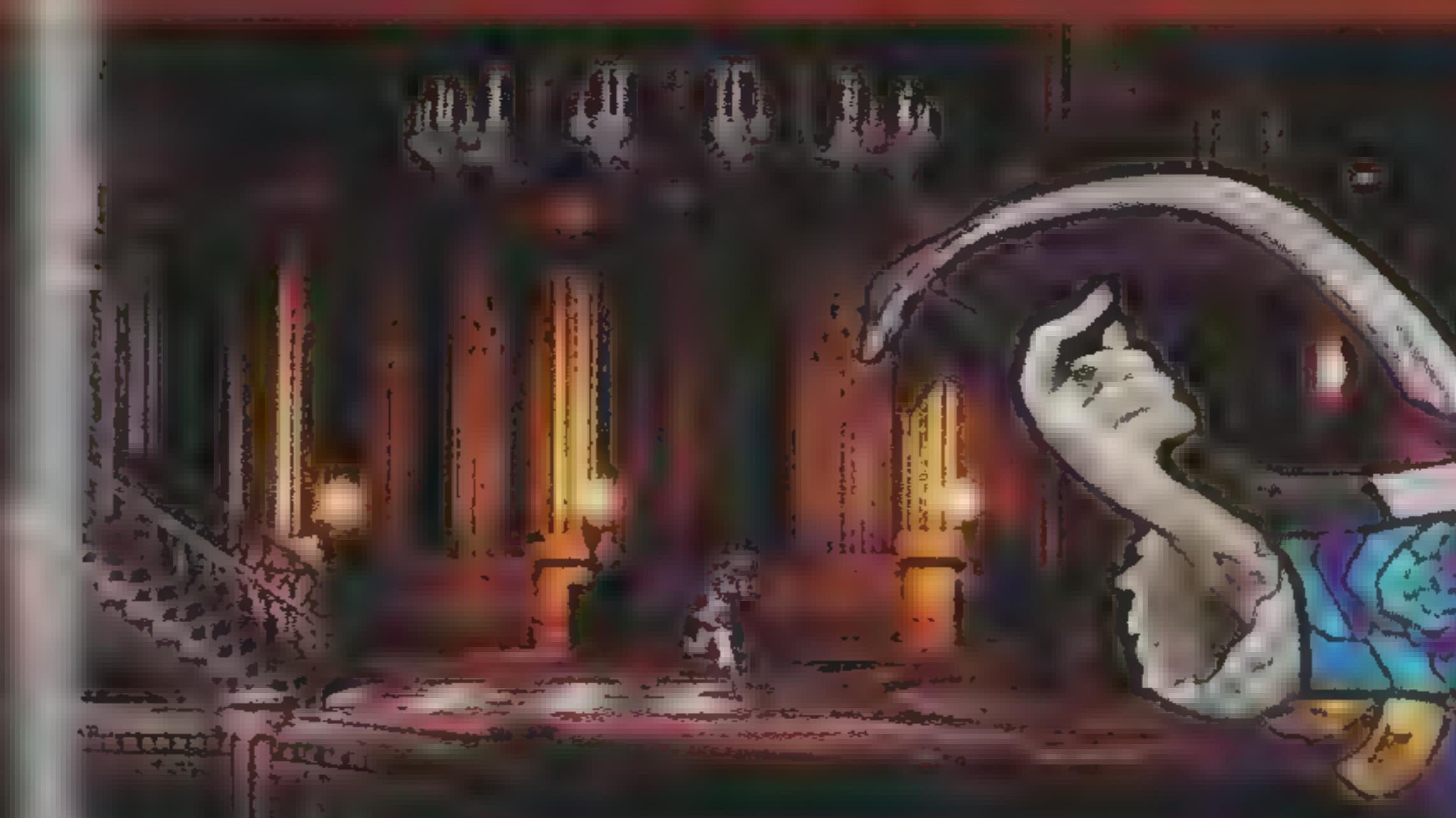
Release date: Q1 2018
 Developer: Inti Creates
 Publisher: 505 Games
 Platform: PC, Playstation 4, PlayStation Vita and Xbox One

Genre: Metroidvania
 Modes: Single and Multi Play

Bloodstained: Ritual of the Night is an upcoming metroidvania game by Inti Creates and is considered as the spiritual successor to the Castlevania series. The development is led by none other than Castlevania producer Koji Igarashi himself, Yuji Natsume as the artist and with Michiru Yamane as the music composer.

The story follows Miriam, an unfortunate orphan whose skin is slowly transforming into crystals due to being afflicted by an alchemist's curse. Miriam's only hope is to find her old friend Gebel who was said to be suffering from the same curse. She must now navigate through Gebel's demon infested castle and find him before time runs out.

The gameplay follows metroidvania-style and could be similar to the Castlevania franchise. Bloodstained will be presented in a 2.5D style where the environment is 3D but movement is a 2D side scrolling system. Various RPG elements will also be implemented within the game. A level system will be featured in order to boost Miriam's stats and capabilities.



Players are also given the option to craft weapons where materials are acquired by simple exploration, defeating enemies and completing quest. Some materials are also required in order to improve Miriam's abilities.

Miriam will spend almost if not most of the time exploring Gebel's castle domain. A massive structure that boasts a variety of locations and countless demon spawns. Warp points however are provided throughout the castle which makes backtracking easier.

The game took shape after Igarashi left Konami, but undying Castlevania fans requested Igarashi for another Igavania game. Thus a Kickstarter campaign was started which successfully raised over \$5.5 million from backers. The game's full production began in July 2016 and estimated release date is stated to be sometime within the first half of 2018.





LITTLE NIGHTMARES

Release date: Spring 2017
 Developer: Tarsier Studios
 Publisher: Bandai Namco Entertainment
 Platform: PC, Playstation 4 and Xbox One
 Genre: Puzzle-platform
 Modes: Single player

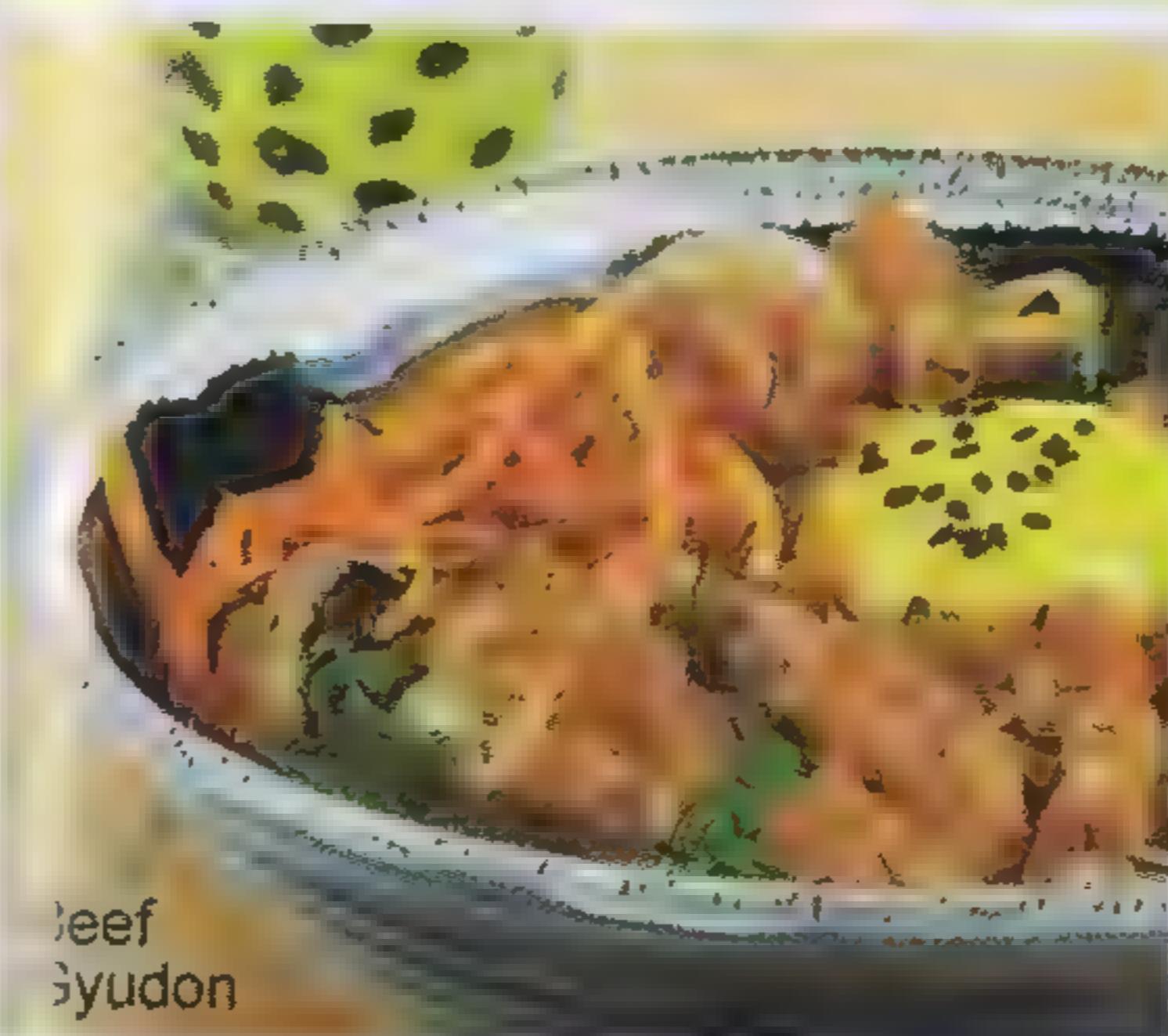
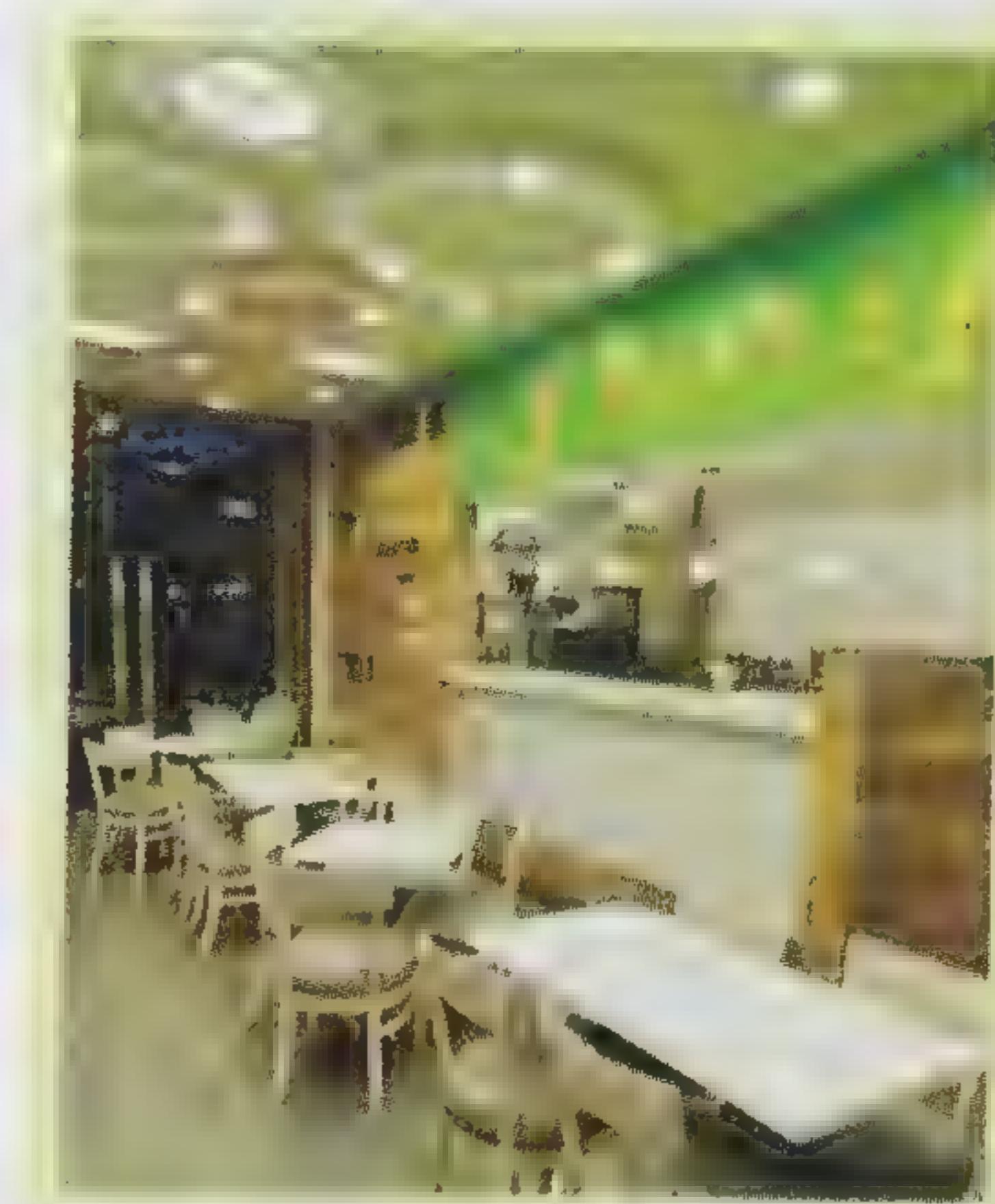
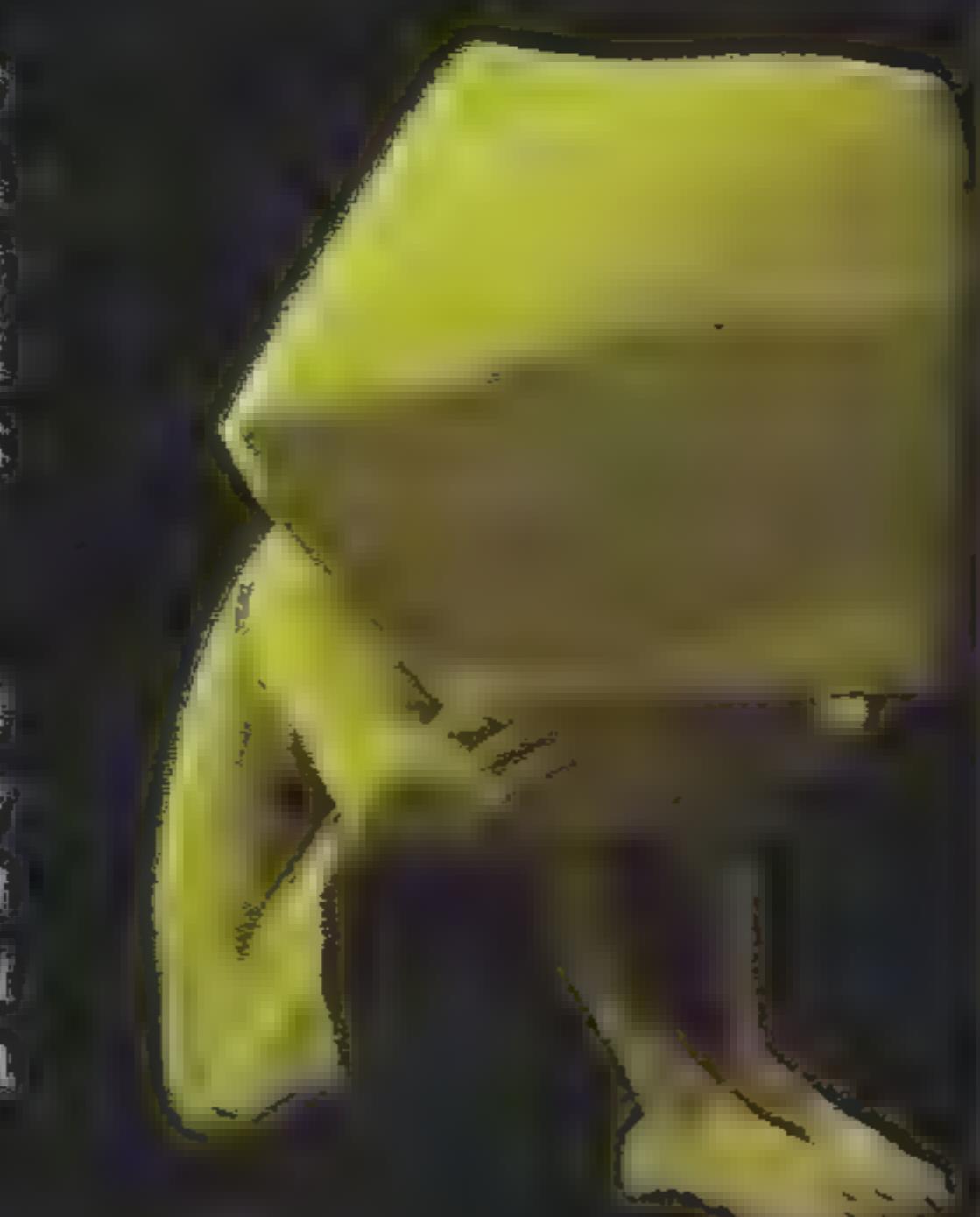
Little Nightmares is a puzzle-platformer game published by Bandai Namco and developed by Tarsier Studios for the PC, PS4 and Xbox One. The game was based on the concept that Tarsier Studio introduced ten years ago called The City of Metronome.

The story follows a nine-year old girl named Six who was forcibly taken into The Maw, a twisted place that brings your fears to life. The Maw is an underwater construct where only an eerie chimney is visible when looking from the surface. It is a place of extremes whose patrons are the elites of society. Garbed with a yellow jacket, Six must now find a way in order to escape this dreadful place and return to her normal life once again.



On 2014, the game was first announced with the title Hunger with no current publisher by that time. The studio released a trailer for the game a year after. But then last August 2016, an agreement was made between Tarsier Studio and Bandai Namco Entertainment for the project where the game was retitled Little Nightmares.

Little Nightmares is definitely one of the most striking yet jaw dropping games that could instill fear and anxiety to every player. Though the story features the esoteric adventures of a child, the game is more inclined for adult consumption. If you think you're brave enough, then try to pick this game up when it's released and face your nightmares.



Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.

Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.



REVIEWS



THE PRINCESS I VOWED TO PROTECT

by Yani

SHUUMATSU NO IZETTA

Not all people accept the existence of anything related to magic like witch craft. Most of them fear their superpowers resulting for the witches to go into hiding or never revealed the fact that they were witches. Well, there are some who accept them like our princess in the story: Fine.

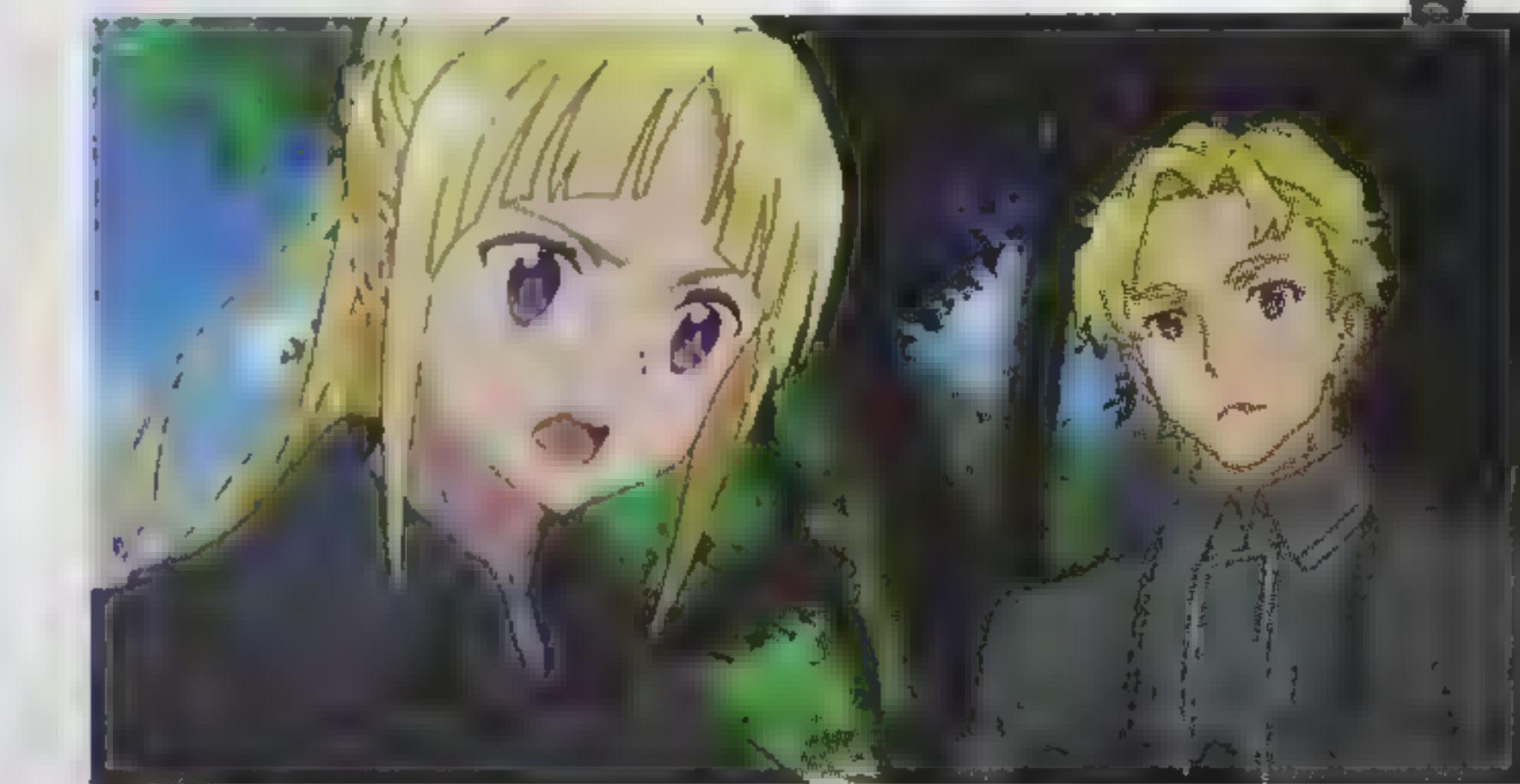
When Fine was still a kid, she and Izetta met accidentally; she saw Izetta using magic which amazed her. They became friends after that and Izetta promised that she will protect her no matter what.

They met again when they were adults but in a different situation. Fine was hiding from the Germanian soldiers and asking for support from other countries at the same time since the Germanian forces have been invading her homeland. She was captured by the soldiers however, Izetta was also on the

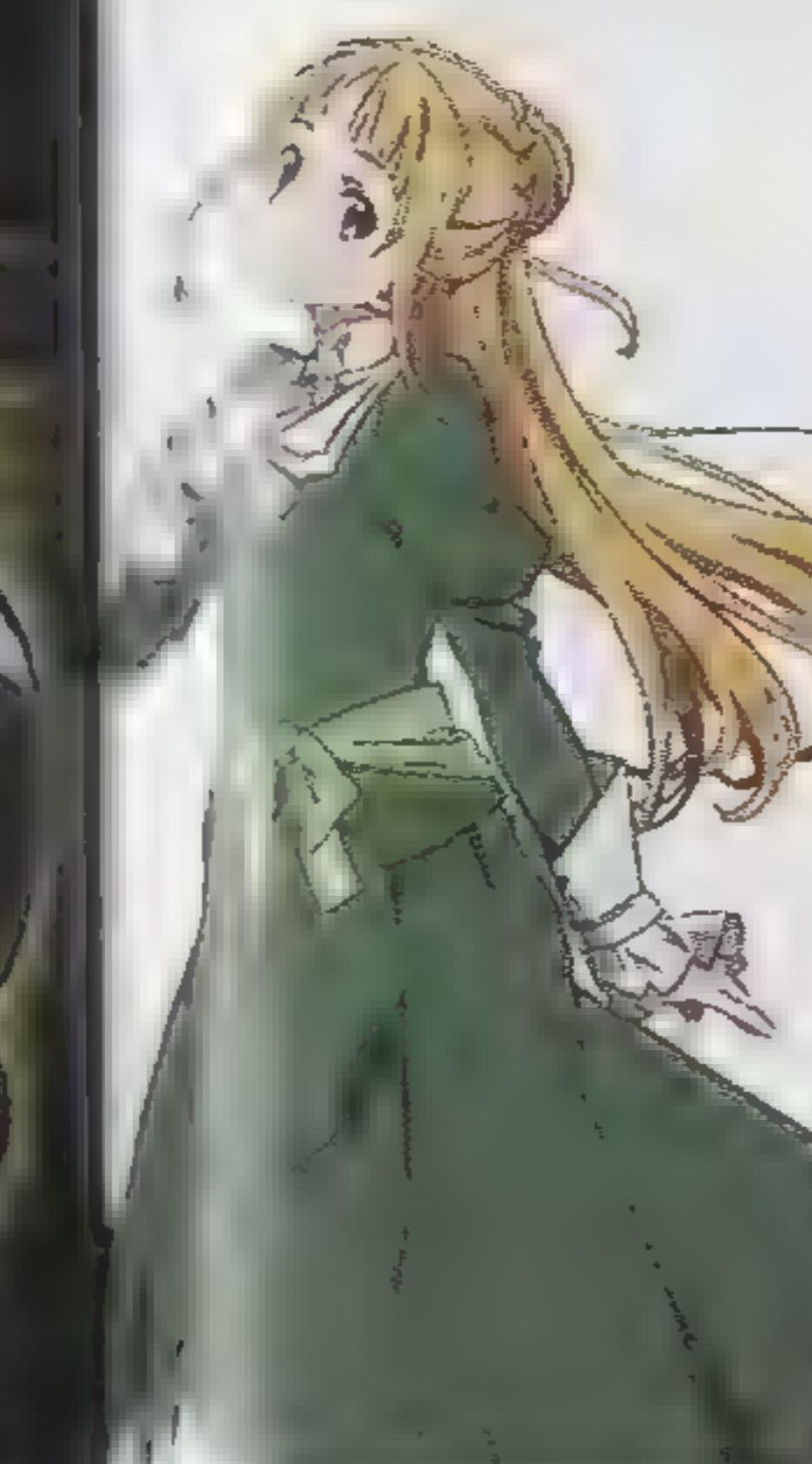
plane where she was being captured. She rescued Fine and bring her to safety. Now that they are reunited again, will Izetta keep her promise to Fine or perhaps help Fine to fight for her homeland?

Shuumatsu no Izetta is a historical fantasy anime series by Ajia-do Animation Works. It was directed by Masaya Fujimori and produced by Tatsuya Yamaguchi. The series began airing last October 1, 2016.

The thing that this anime is different from the other historical anime is that the animation is really good to the point you won't stop watching it. The plot also was wonderful since magic and history was perfectly written that you won't get sleepy when watching. I would say that this is a perfect anime to watch this Christmas break.

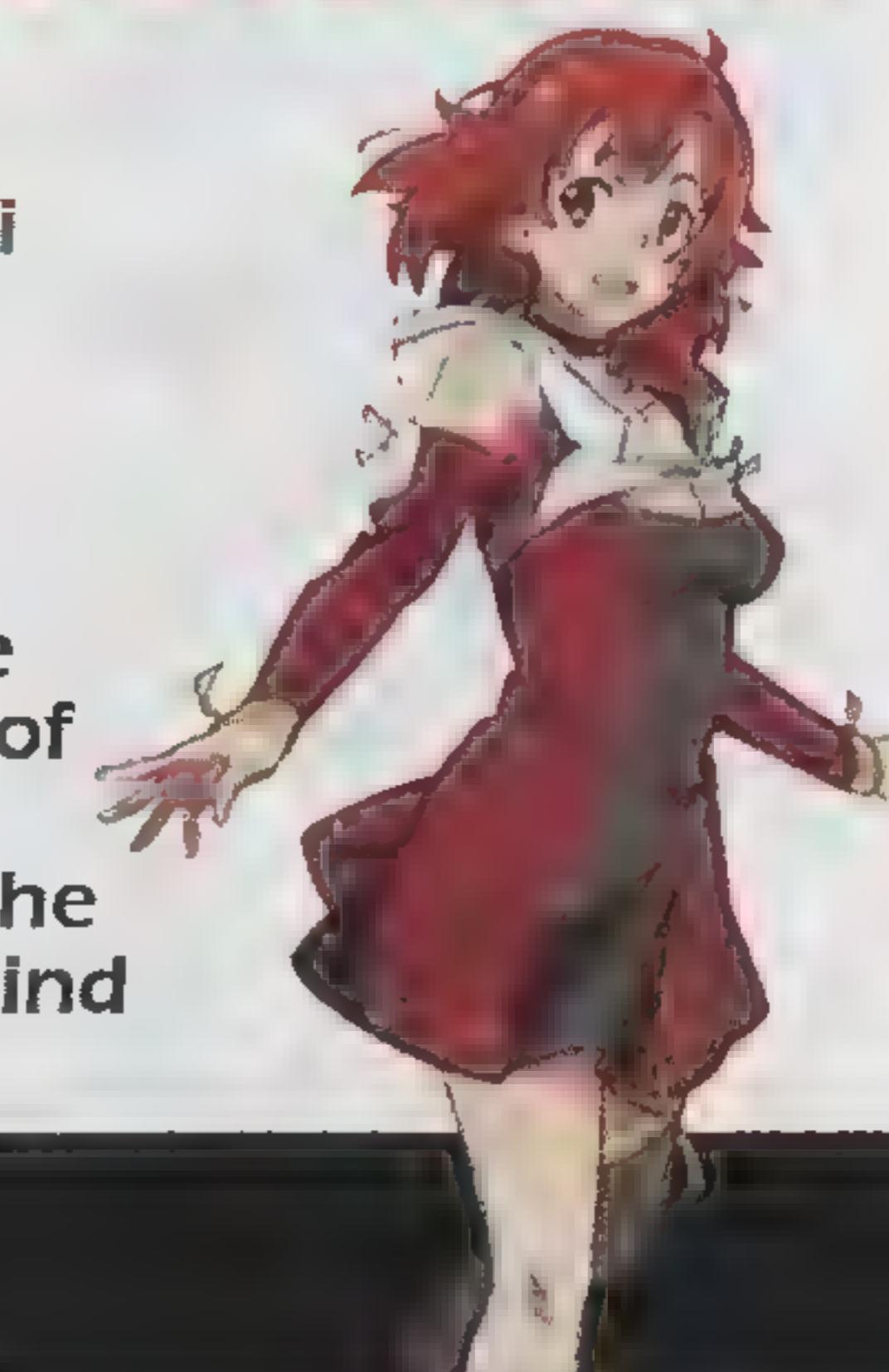


CHARACTERS:



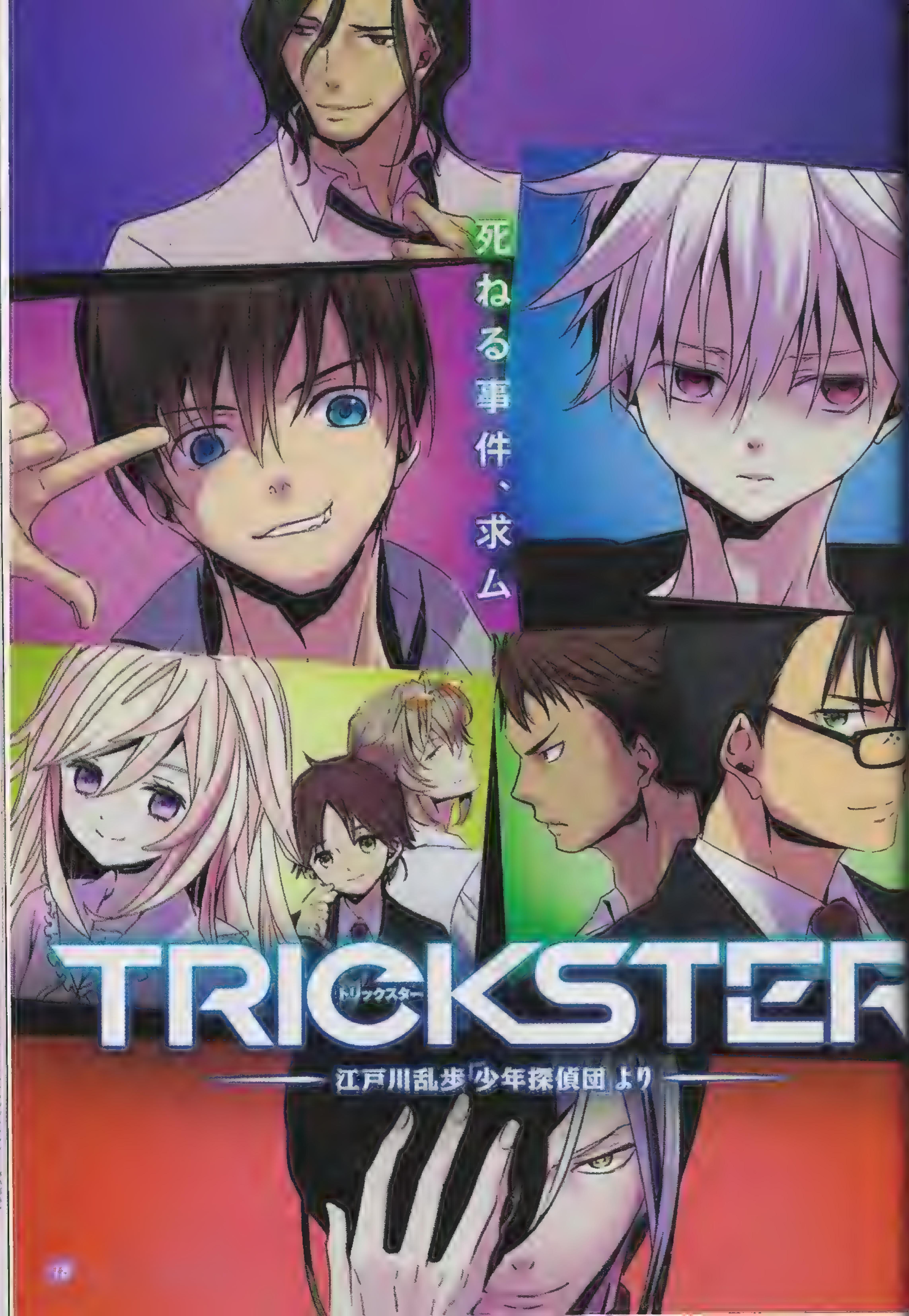
Fine
CV: Saori Hayami

Her full name is Ortfiné "Finé" Frederika von Eylstadt. She is the crowned princess of Eylstadt. Despite being a princess, she is tomboyish but kind and strong willed.



Izetta
CV: Himika Akaneya

She is the last descendant of the Weisse Hexe of Eylstadt. Using her powers, she can manipulate any object she touches.



DEATH IS NOT AN OPTION

by Mikelle

TRICKSTER

Trickster is a 2016 shounen mystery anime by TMS Entertainment and Shin-Ei Animation. The series is written by Yoshida Erika and directed by Mukai Masahiro with character designs by Peach-Pit. The anime began airing in October 2016 and a manga adaptation by Mantohihi Binta was serialized a few months prior the anime.

The story follows the Shounen Tanteidan or Boys Detective Club, a group of competent geniuses assembled by the infamous detective Akechi Kogorou. Energetic member Hanasaki Kensuke encounters Kobayashi Yoshio, a boy with a mysterious self defense mechanism that provides him an undying body. Kobayashi loathes human interaction and is always trying to find a way to bypass his ability and in order to die. Hanasaki decided to help Kobayashi and thus invited him into the detective team.

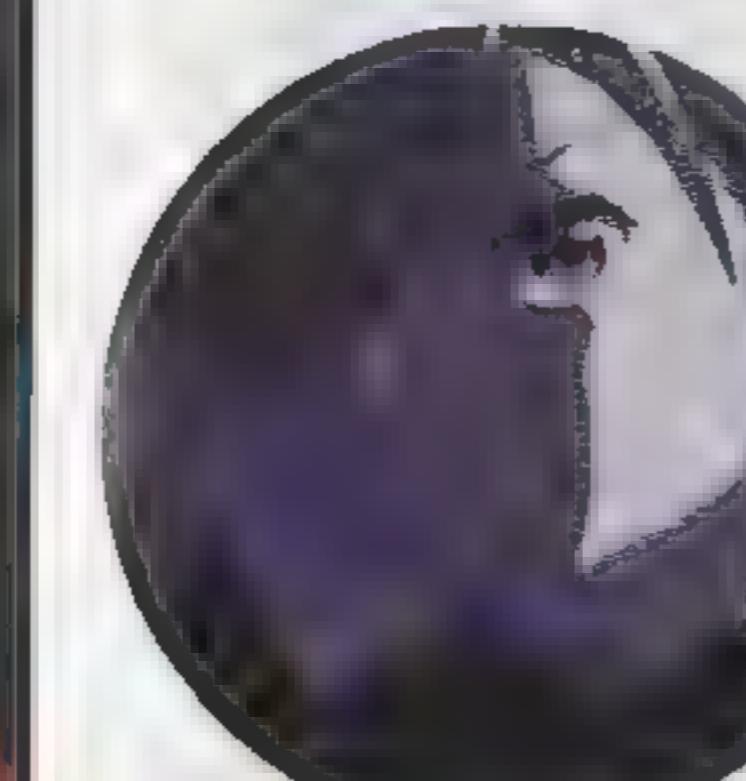
Trickster is inspired by renowned writer Rampo Edogawa's novels: The Boy Detectives Club (1937) and The Fiend With Twenty Faces (1936). The anime's opening theme song is *Kimi Dake no Boku de Iru Kara* by Gackt and the ending theme is *1Hope Sniper* by Tadokoro Azusa. Trickster is also scheduled to have an OVA release by the end of the year. An upcoming live action film has also been planned and further info should be announced soon.

For those who admire mystery detective stories, Trickster is the right show for you this season. Featuring characters and mysteries inspired from Rampo Edogawa's works, the anime would surely get the audience hooked in the battle between good and evil.



KENSUKE HANASAKI (CV: OSAKA RYOTA)

Hanasaki is the energetic and athletic member of the Boy's Detective Club. He possess strong sense of justice and an optimistic personality which prompts him into helping others who are in need.



KOBAYAKAWA YOSHIO (CV: DAIKI YAMASHITA)

Kobayakawa is an apathetic boy who wishes for death. He is surrounded by mysteries as he himself doesn't have any memories of the past. He unwillingly became a part of the detective team due to Hanasaki's meddling.



MAKOTO NORO (CV: KIDO IBUKI)

Noro is the only female member of the group who uses her pet owl like a drone in order to communicate with the other members. Despite being a shut-in who exercises most of the time, she is an indispensable member who handles information and technical stuff that assists other members.



ASSEMBLE, SWORD BOYS!

by Reikisha

TOUKEN RANBU: HANAMARU

In the year 2205, an army of otherworldly monsters known as the "Historical Revisionists" have begun attacks on the past to change the course of history. The Saniwa has been tasked with preventing the revisionist army from their achieving their goal. But in-order to do that, the Saniwa gives life to famous historical swords and transform them into male warriors capable of fighting against the monsters.

Touken Ranbu: Hanamaru is an anime adaptation of DMM an Nitroplus' online web browser game. The series is animated by Doga Kobo and has a total of 12 episodes starting from October 3 to December 19, 2016. Ufotable will also have an anime adaptation of Touken Ranbu this coming 2017.



Even though Touken Ranbu: Hanamaru's story involves time traveling, it's definitely not the main focus of the show. Instead, it portrays the daily lives of the sword boys while preparing themselves for their next mission against the revisionist army. Unfortunately for curious viewers, the anime adaptation of Touken Ranbu isn't enjoyable to watch unless they have played the game. Not to mention that there are subtle hints of shounen-ai, so male viewers will also feel very uncomfortable after watching Touken Ranbu out of curiosity.

It's also disappointing that the fight scenes—which is supposed to be the show's strongest point, somehow deteriorated after the first episode. Character development is also non-existent due to the fact that the sword boys army grows larger each episode.

Touken Ranbu: Hanamaru is not bad overall. It's just that it will feel like watching a bland show with no real plot without having any knowledge of the characters and the references they make. This anime is highly recommended for female Otafans in general (and a small subset of fudanshis).



Occultic;Nine

Occultic;Nine is a paranormal-themed mystery anime by A-1 Pictures which aired during the Fall 2016 anime season. The anime is an adaptation of Chiyomaru Shikira's light novel series of the same name and is illustrated by pako. Occultic;Nine is said to be set within the same universe of Chiyomaru's previous works: Chaos;Head, Steins;Gate and Robotic;Notes.

The story follows nine different individuals who are all connected through an occult news blog called Choujou Kagaku Kirikiri Basara run by high school student Gamon Yuta. Despite running a paranormal centered blog that feeds up to date information to his audience and followers, Yuuta is actually a skeptic whose only aim is to earn money through site affiliates. Ironic enough, Yuuta could not remain as a simple news aggregator who only worries about increasing website traffic since he himself was coincidentally pulled into a series of bizarre crimes and mysteries. Now Yuuto along with his friend must solve the string of mysteries that occurs throughout the city.

Occultic;Nine also has a manga adaptation by Ganjii which began serialization in Kodansha's good! afternoon comic. The light novel series is published by Overlap which currently has a total of two volumes. A game adaptation has also been announced in 2015 but no update has surfaced so far.

The anime's opening theme is title *Seisu 3 no Nijou* by Kanako Itou while the ending theme is *Open your eyes* by Asaka.



GAMON YUTA (CV: KAJI YUUKI)

Yuta is the self-proclaimed NEET who runs the occult new blog Kirikiri Basara. He planned to live a simple life of earning money through his site but he always ends up attracting weird individuals and is constantly surrounded by strange phenomena.



NARUSAWA RYOKA (CV: AYANE SAKURA)

Ryota is Yuta's eccentric and energetic best friend. Equipped with an enormous bosom and stun-gun, she follows Yuta as his colleague who runs the website.



AIKAWA MIYU (CV: YOSHIDA HITOMI)

Miyu is a famous online fortune teller and is also Yuta's junior at school. She has many followers that watches her live streams and also has her own fans club.



HASHIGAMI SARAI (CV: ISHIKAWA KAITO)

Sarai is a realist who only believes things that he has seen or has been proven by scientific means. Ironically, his father is an esteemed professor that specializes in paranormal research and study.



SANGATSU NO LION

Rei Kiriayama is a professional shogi player who lives independently in an unfamiliar place. Despite his independence, Rei has yet to mature emotionally as he always carry a heavy burden wherever he goes. His relationship with his foster family is strained, and never interacts with his fellow students in school. While he is able to be acquainted with a few people in professional shogi, as well as having a homeroom teacher to rely on, Rei still refuses to reach out to them.

One day, Rei becomes acquainted with the Kawamori family. They warmly welcome Rei into their house with open arms as if he became a member of their family. Everytime he visits the Kawamori family, Rei is able to experience the care and attention he never had while under his foster home.

Sangatsu no Lion (March Comes in Like a Lion) is an anime series produced by Aniplex and animated by Studio Shaft. It is based from an on-going slice of life manga by Umino Chika that was serialized in Young Animal since July 13, 2007. The anime is scheduled to air for 23 episodes from October 8, 2016 to March 11, 2017.



REVIEW

Sangatsu no Lion tells the story of Rei Kiriayama's emotional struggles, his way of shogi, and how important the Kawamori family is to him. The show casually jumps between flashbacks and present events, but since Shaft is the animation studio behind the anime, this narrative approach was still able to give the audience an idea about Rei's tragic past.

Fortunately, you don't need to have extensive knowledge of shogi to understand what's happening in the later parts since **Sangatsu no Lion** isn't actually a sports anime. Not to mention, the primary focus of the story is Rei's emotional growth and maintaining a strong bond with his acquaintances, especially the Kawamori family.

If you're familiar with **Honey and Clover**, then you'll definitely like **Sangatsu no Lion** more! This is one of the underrated shows this season that delivers superb narrative animation and characterization. Each episode will fill you up with mixed emotion, so prepare yourself for the feels.



NANBAKA

by Reikisha

Nanba Prison—the biggest prison island known for its impregnable defenses and elite guards recruited from all over the world. With its highly advanced security system and layers of traps scattered around the vicinity of the prison, no prisoner would ever attempt to go beyond the high walls of Nanba Prison. Or so they think.

Four inmates from cell 13 were able to break out of their cell on a daily basis and cause problems to the warden. But are they doing it for the sake of freedom or just to kill boredom?

Nanbaka (The Numbers) is an anime adaptation of the comedy web manga series created by Futamata Shou. The anime series is handled by Satelight and was scheduled to have a total of 13 episodes from October 5 to December 28. Nanbaka will also have a second season this coming January 2017.

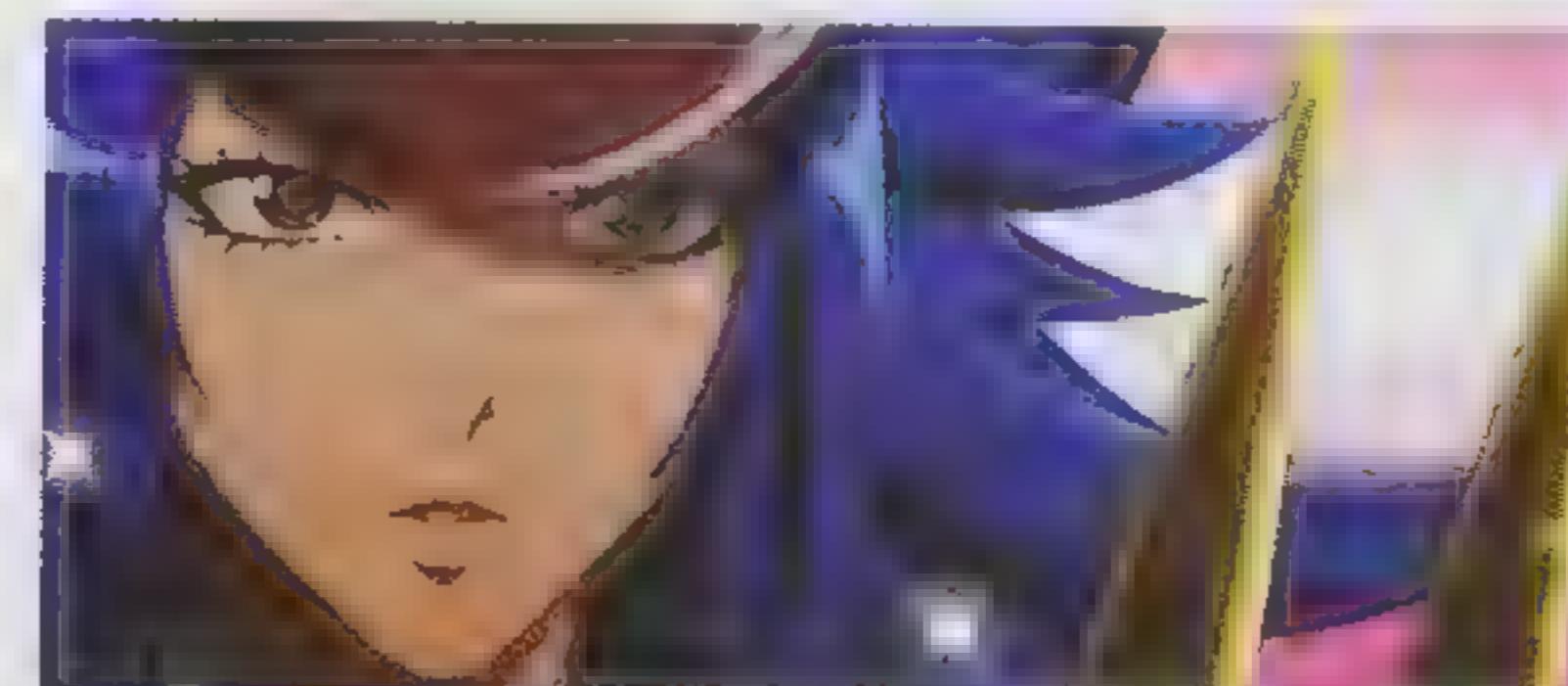


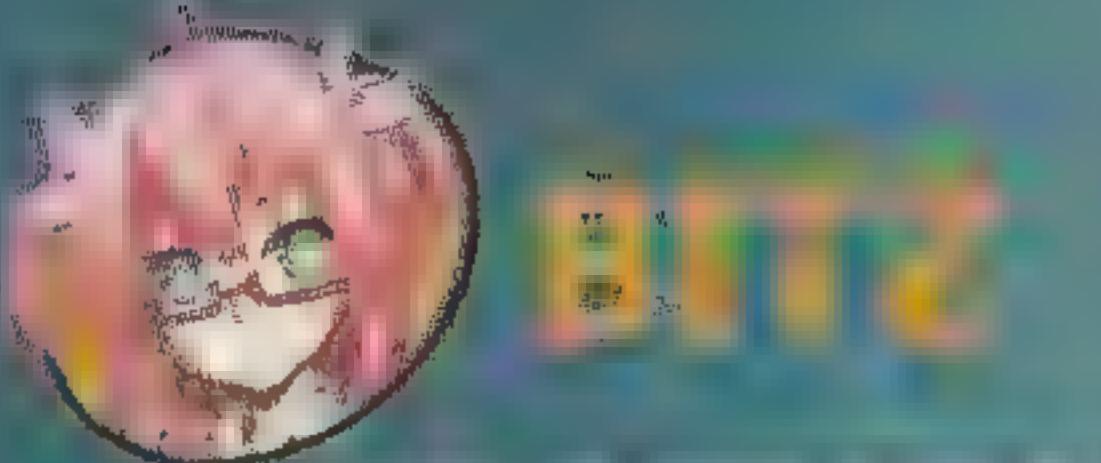
REVIEW

Nanbaka is a show that subverts the usual prison lifestyle into something more like a happy slice-of-life story about the prisoners.

The biggest concern regarding Nanbaka is the unusual animation style Satelight used compared to the rest of the shows airing this season. It might take a while for the audience to get used to the vibrant colors and excessive use of sparkling effects as they watch. Putting the animation style aside, what makes Nanbaka an interesting show is because the mood gradually shifts in each episode. The first half are always full of silly gags while the second half is dropping hints that things will get serious in the later episodes.

Upon reading the manga, it's safe to say that the anime adaptation is simply staying true to the original source. Every single character in Nanbaka is designed to be as flamboyant as possible, so it may turn off the potential male audiences to pick up the series.

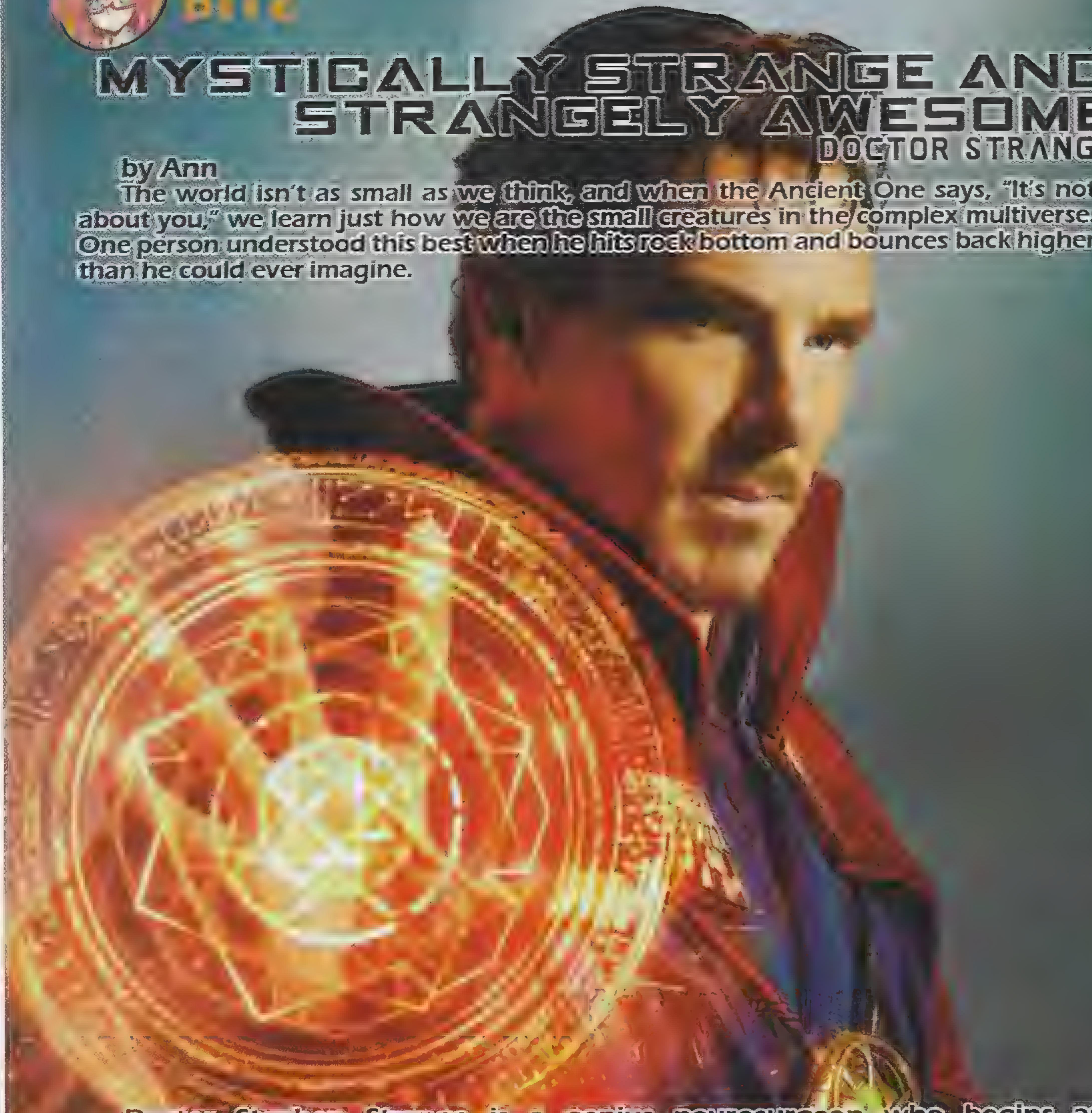




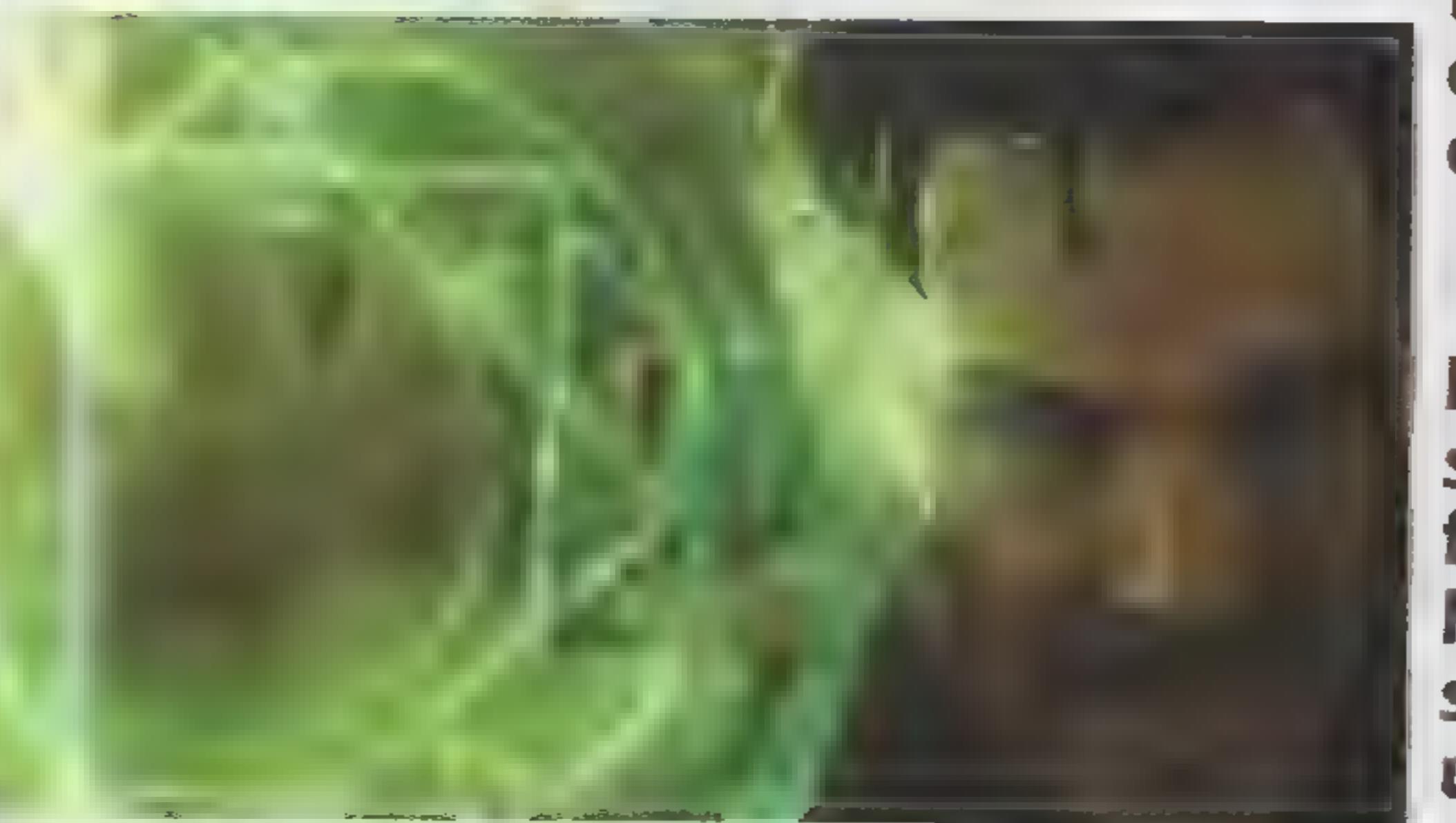
MYSTICALLY STRANGE AND STRANGELY AWESOME DOCTOR STRANGE

by Ann

The world isn't as small as we think, and when the Ancient One says, "It's not about you," we learn just how we are the small creatures in the complex multiverse. One person understood this best when he hits rock bottom and bounces back higher than he could ever imagine.



Doctor Stephen Strange is a genius neurosurgeon who begins as arrogant, relying on his skills and long years of studying medicine, but he suffers immensely when a car accident damages the nerves of his hands. He later seeks Kamar-Taj in Kathmandu, Nepal to be healed. There, he meets the Ancient One who helps him to rediscover his potential and see the world with a new set of eyes. Because of his natural abilities to easily grasp knowledge and through intense training, he wields great power from the mystic arts. However, as soon as he does, he also becomes acquainted with the threat against the earth with Kaecilius, a former Master of the Mystic Arts, desperate to open the Dark Dimension to let Dormammu take over and stop time. Which mind will Doctor Strange follow if even his mentor breaks some rules and draws long life from the dark space which she warned them against? How does his enlightenment come from flawed ideals?



Directed by Scott Derrickson, Doctor Strange is the 14th film of the Marvel Cinematic Universe or MCU. However, the film is a caliber of its own with its standalone plot, which even non-Marvel fans can understand. Nevertheless, there were references to other Marvel heroes mentioned to somehow help in connecting them with the entire MCU. The character, played by Benedict Cumberbatch in the film, originally came from the minds of Steve Ditko and Stan Lee. The rest of the cast includes Tilda Swinton (the Ancient One), Rachel McAdams (Christine Palmer), Chiwetel Ejiofor (Karl Mordo), Mads Mikkelsen (Kaecilius), and Benedict Wong (Wong).

With a strong helping of humor, Doctor Strange's less than two hours of runtime takes viewers in various levels of high definition twists of space as well as time. It does feel like you're high or hallucinating with the way the buildings and streets shift in and out according to the will of the masters! While some of the background story present in the comics can create a different perspective of the story, such as Kaecilius' motivation for wanting to stop time, the film's plot is an easy hook for many to become familiar with Doctor Strange and to introduce the audience to the multiverse areas of MCU. Lastly, the cast packs strong performances that will not be gone unnoticed from their delivery of lines to stunts. Also, don't forget to watch out for two scenes found in the closing credits!

Doctor Strange was released this November in the Philippines, but it's sure to leave a deep footprint to follow for the rest of MCU. Hence, keep your mind open because something positively strange is upon us.



2017 MUST WATCH MOVIES

by Ann

Every year is not the same, especially if you've got tons of movies to look forward to. We don't want you to spend so much time looking here and there to know which ones to pick, so we've listed down some of the ones you have to check out on the big screen!



Ghost in the Shell

The Major is a policewoman, who has full-body prosthesis but still has a brain to protect from hackers. She works with task force Section 9 to stop cyber criminals from causing wreckage at Hanka Robotics. Based on the manga written and illustrated by Masamune Shirow in 1989, the film has been making fans worldwide itching to find out how the live action film rises up to breathe life to a story that has taken deep root in the world of sci-fi. Directed by Rupert Sanders and written by Jonathan Herman and Jamie Moss, it stars Scarlett Johansson, Pilou Asbæk, Takeshi Kitano, Chin Han, Michael Pitt, and Juliette Binoche. *Ghost in the Shell* will be released in March.

Jumanji

Remembering Robin Williams is one we'd associate with sadness nowadays, but no one can easily forget his role in our fond childhood memories. Among these memories is his part in the 1995 film *Jumanji*. This coming December, a continuation of this story is led by the cast of Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Jack Black, Karen Gillan, and Nick Jonas with Jake Kasdan as their director. It's expected to be different from the 1995 film which was based on Chris Van Allsburg's children's fantasy novel published in 1981 because the 2017 film features teens rather than the young kids playing a board game. But the premise of conquering the wild jungle is still there, so there's some comparison to the classic.

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2

The gang is back and this time around, they're out for new adventures including learning more about Peter Quill's biological father. With James Gunn coming back from being the director of the previous instalment, there's also Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Vin Diesel, Dave Bautista and Bradley Cooper. They are joined by other actors, who play as creatures the Guardians meet as allies or foes, such as Kurt Russell, Karen Gillan, Elizabeth Debicki, and Chris Sullivan. It's the 15th film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, and it'll be on the big screen by May.

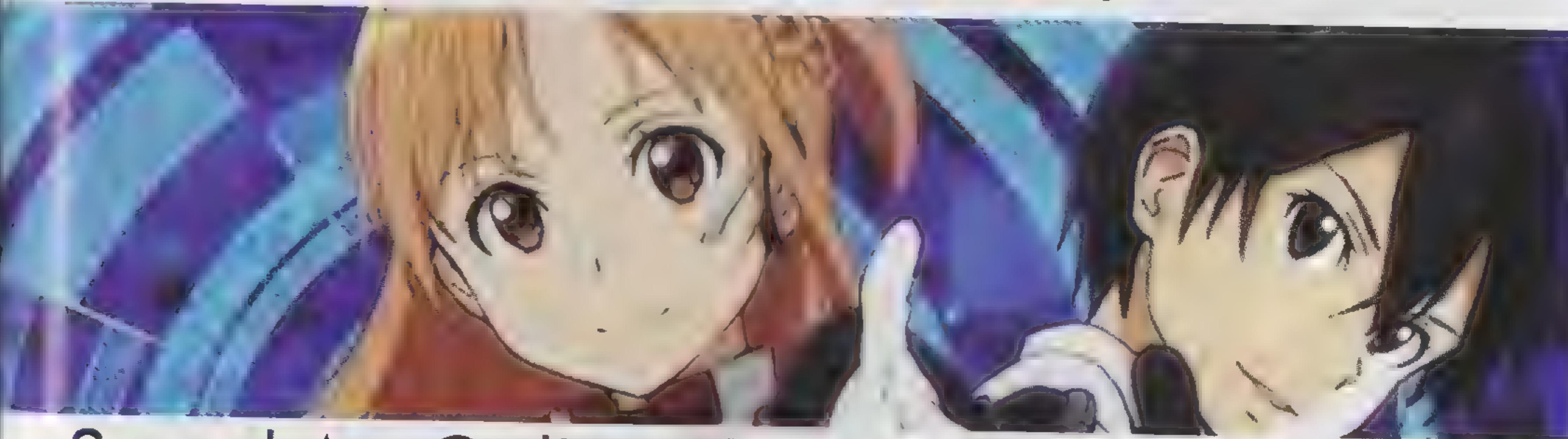


Beauty and the Beast

Emma Watson is one of the most talked about actors in 2016, so it's no surprise that when it was revealed she was playing Belle in this new film, everyone's been focusing on how it will all turn out. Based on the tale as old as time, *Beauty and the Beast* is an adaptation of the 1981 Disney animated film by Linda Woolverton which was also based on Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont's story. The screenplay is written by Evan Spiliopoulos and Stephen Chbosky with Bill Condon as director. The film also features Dan Stevens, Luke Evans, Kevin Kline and Josh Gad, plus the voices of Ewan McGregor, Stanley Tucci, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Audra McDonald, Ian McKellen, and Emma Thompson. *Beauty and the Beast* will rekindle childhood hearts in March.

Star Wars Episode VIII

Star Wars is back to add another vision to the long-standing franchise. Episode VIII is set to highlight the rest of Rey's journey after the previous instalment, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, introduce this new protagonist into the saga. Being sensitive to the Force, Rey is destined to fulfil a greater role with this advantage. Daisy Ridley, Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher, Adam Driver, John Boyega, Oscar Isaac, and Lupita Nyong'o make up some of the long list of cast directed by Rian Johnson. However, there's still a long wait for the film because it will be released by the end of 2017.



Sword Art Online The Movie: Ordinal Scale

Beginning as a smash-hit light novel to being adapted into two animated series, *Sword Art Online* now continues with a movie set to be released in Japan in February. Its author Reki Kawahara took care of an original story. The protagonist, Kirito, and his friends begin a new game called *Ordinal Scale* in which they must keep up with the game's ranking system. Yet, they smell something suspicious when monsters from *Aincard* (the game in which they were first trapped) coincide with this new game. *Sword Art Online The Movie: Ordinal Scale* is produced by A-1 Pictures and directed by Tomohiko Ito.

So, if you're coming up with your New Year's Resolutions, count these movies in your list to find out just how they live up to their hype!



INBOX



Chelsea Biclar

Good day, Otaku Asia.

I want to request something for your next issue. I liked to request as cover or live action the Ouran Highschool Host Club. I am a fan of the anime. Also the Brother's Conflict in Character bio please! And also, even it's my first time to have an issue of Otaku Asia Magazine, I loved it on my first impression. So glad about this issue.

More power and long live the Otaku Asia. More issues to come Otaku Asia!

Arigatou Gozaimasu.

-Kara



Franscine Filoteo



Izuku

Midoriya

(from My Hero Academia)

Kyori-chan



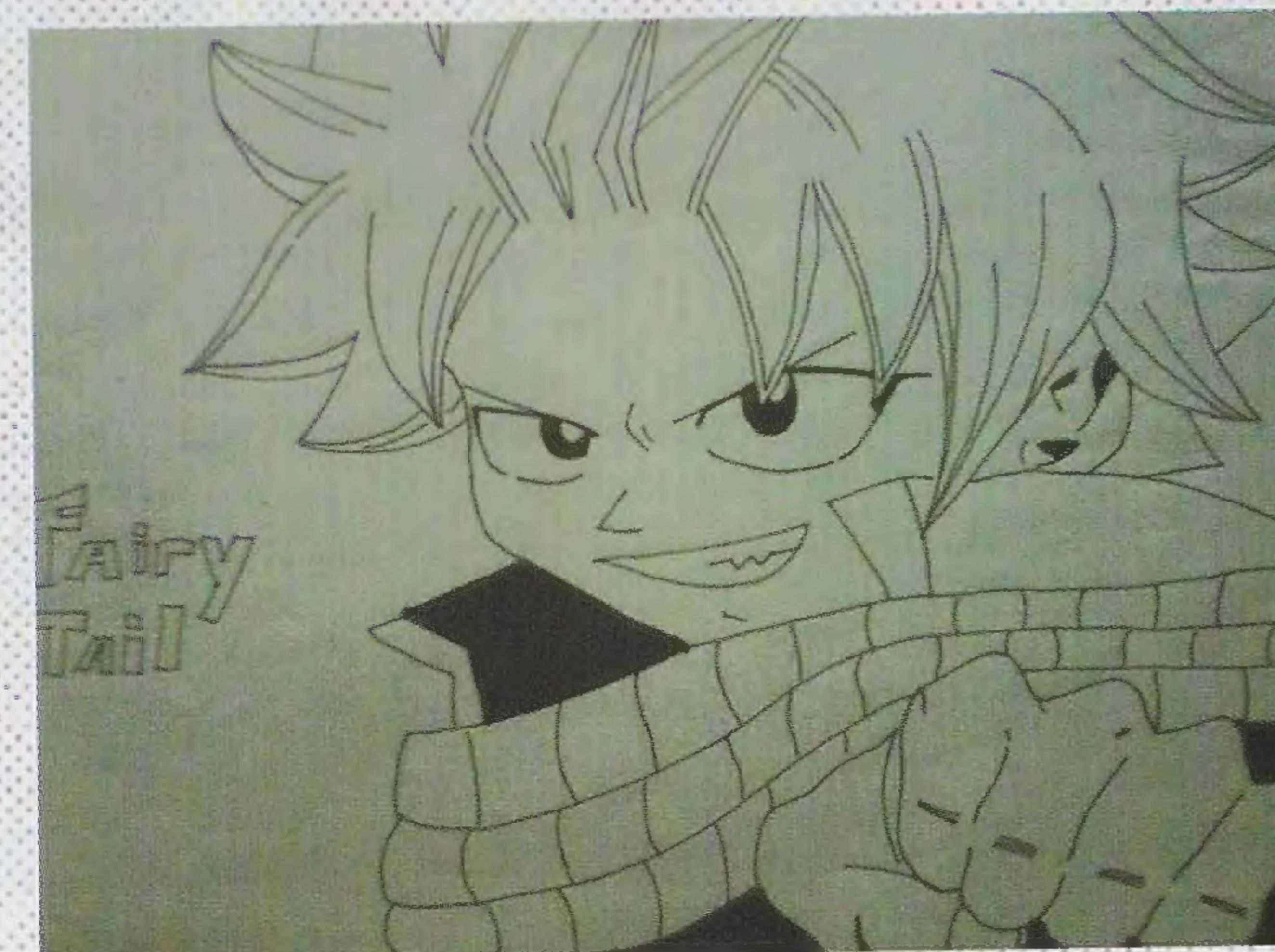
Hello Otaku Asia

It's my first time to make a fanart^~^...And I want to say that I love your magazines....last year lang po nagstart magcollect..And minsan hindi ko na ginagastos ang pera ko pang recess para lang maka-ipon at makabili ng mga magazines nyo ^_~...

Sana po makasali sa next issue ang drawing ko. And thank you for your Hard Work.....^_~ I would like to say hi to my classmates are also Amine Lovers especially to Gwyneth Rose Aba-asana po napansin nyo po ako ^_~ hehe....

Arigato gozaimasu God bless u.this is my drawing Yui from Sword Art Online..

-Gwyneth Grace Lastico



Hazel Ann Melecio

Hello Otaku Asia!
I was an Avid fan of your magazine, it's my first time sending a letter to you! I really like all your Anime Magazine because of the magazine I know what is the newest anime.

More power and more Issues to come! Arigatou Gozaimasu

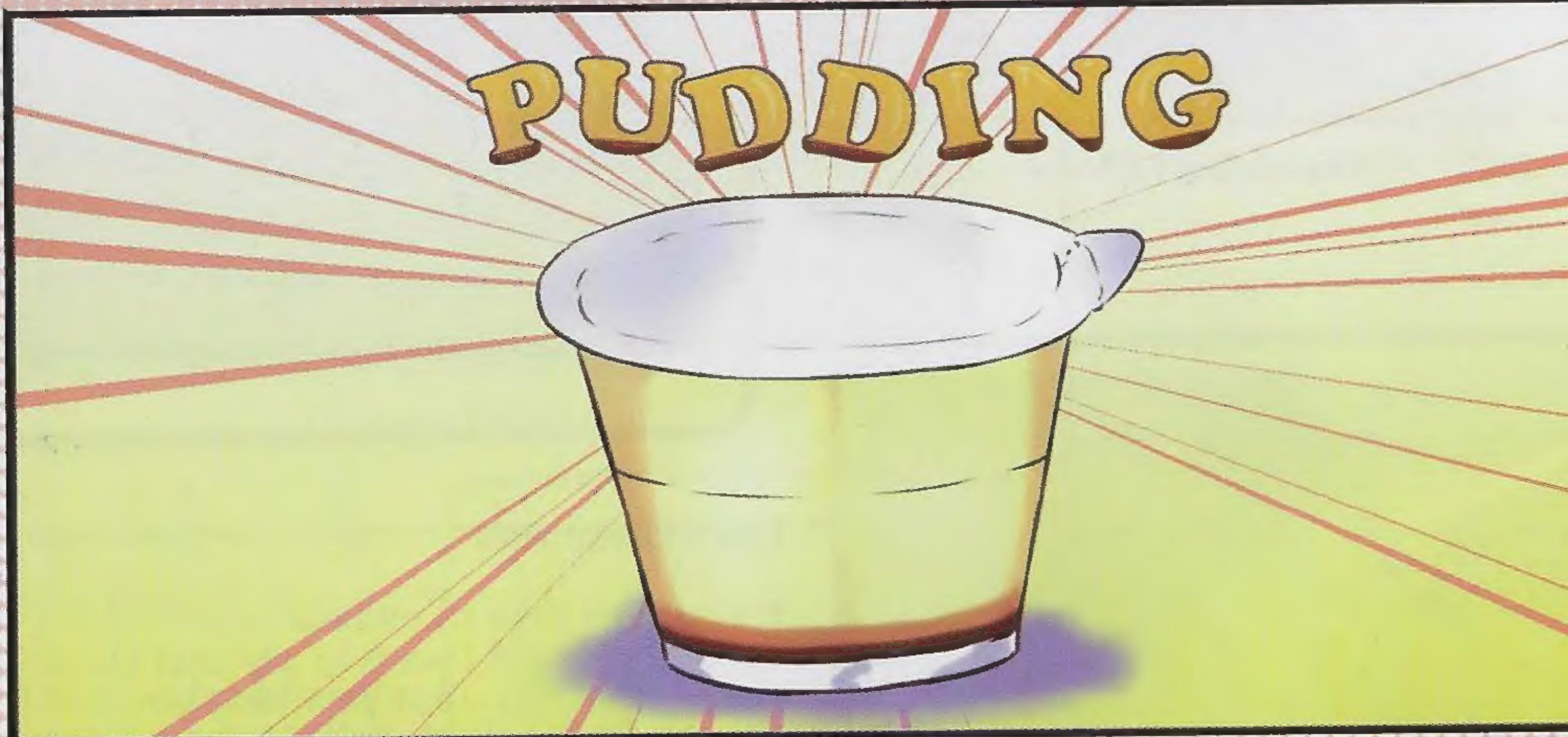
-Kiyoshi Kyle Guevarra



O-KUN TALES

What does

pudding taste like?



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#THROWBACK



Magic Knight Rayearth

One of the classic anime that I'm sure that most of the 90's kid had watched. It really brings nostalgia whenever we hear its opening song plus the epic tagalog dub version of it. Magic Knight Rayearth is a magical girl anime focusing on three 8th grade students named Hikaru Shido, Umi Ryuzaki and Fu Hooji who were having a field trip on the Tokyo tower with their respective schools. They were transported into another world during their fieldtrip to the place known as Cephiro. Hikaru, Umi and Fu were tasked into rescuing its pillar, Princes Emeraude from his abductor Zagato. If they were able to do so, they can return to their homes.

Magic Knight Rayearth is a manga series written by clamp in the year 1993. An anime adaptation was released in the year 1994 that was produced by Tokyo Movie Shinsha. An OVA was also released in the year 1997 entitled "Rayearth".

They will be guided by Mokona in their quest and adventure and at the same time, they will learn their element-based magic and awaken the three Rune-Gods who can help them in defeating Zagato. They will also learn to accept each other and become friends during their journey. Let's rewatch the anime once more and follow Hikaru, Umi and Fu with their quests and revelations that they will learn as they go along with their cute little guide, Mokona.



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